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Rosenberg withdraws from teaching course at Hamilton

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Kirkland Project for the Study of Gender, Society and Culture has announced that Susan Rosenberg will withdraw as artist-in-residence for the spring of 2005. Rosenberg's withdrawl from the College comes in the wake of controversy that ensued upon last month's announcement of her hire.

WWW.MILLS.EDU
Susan B. Rosenberg.

In a Wednesday evening email, the Kirkland Project "regretfully" declared Rosenberg's decision, and thanked those students and colleagues "who participated thoughtfully in the discussions of the past few weeks."

In response, Hamilton College President Joan Hinde Stewart stated her respect for Rosenberg's decision.

Rosenberg had been hired earlier this fall. Her duties were to include teaching a half-credit course entitled "Resistance Memoirs: Writing, Identity and Change." Before it was cancelled, the class had filled to capacity at 20 students.

But controversy erupted at a November 2 meeting of the faculty, when professors passionately debated Rosenberg's appointment. The discussion included issues of academic freedom and the standards for being hired to the Hamilton College faculty.

Many of the questions raised were relevant to Rosenberg's background. Prior to her hiring, Rosenberg had been linked to Weather Underground and the Black Liberation. She was indicted, but never tried, for her involvement in the1981 armed robbery of a Brink's armored car. Two police officers in Nyack, NY died as a result of the robbery. Three years later, Rosenberg was arrested for having in her possession a cache of weapons and more than 700

*see **Rosenberg**, page 4*

Challenges stymie 2004 SA elections

by Kathleen Mcgrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The votes for the 2005 Student Assembly President and Vice President remain uncounted as the Assembly's Executive Council looks to evaluate challenges to Tuesday's election. Presidential candidates Michael Blasie '06, Alex Kaufman '06 and Alex Taddei '06 will have to wait until the disputes are handled to learn the election results. This year's ballot also included a vote on proposed changes to the Judicial Board.

Student Assembly by-laws provide for a contesting period that expires at 4 p.m. on the Wednesday following the election. During that time this week, four challenges to the election were filed.

As to not compromise their impartial position, Student Assembly President Elizabeth Dolan '05 and Vice President Jeff Long '05 declined comment. According to Student Assembly Parlimentarian Alexander Webb '05, two of the four contests issued a complaint about the same campaign practice. The third suggested a different improper campaign practice had been employed, and a fourth that persons uninvolved in the election had biased voters.

Each of the candidates filed at least one contest, and more than one candidate had a contest filed against him, Kaufman said. The votes will remain uncounted until at least Friday, Webb said, when the Assembly's Executive Council will hold a hearing to determine which complaints, if any, are valid. In addition to the Executive Council (a body made up of the Assembly's president and vice president, and each of the class president) the parlimentarian, election chair, secretary and faculty advisor will sit in as non-voting members. These non-voting members will not be able to contribute substantatively to the debate, but will rather to speak to procedures and precedents.

During the hearing, each of the parties involved will be allotted an equal amount of time to present its case and answer questions. The Council will then close the session for delibera

*see **Elections**, page 2*

Excelsior Fund campaign kicks off in NYC

by Katie Childs '08
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

More than 375 alumni, faculty members, trustees and supporters of the College attended a kick off event for the Excelsior Fund on Friday, December 3 in Manhattan. The event took place at the New York Historical Society, where an exhibit on Alexander Hamilton served as the backdrop for the evening's activities.

Last Friday marked the start of the ambitious campaign, which hopes to raise $175 million by June of 2008.

"[These funds] include $60 million for new and renovated facilities, $75 million in endowed funds, and $40 million in unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund," said Mike Debraggio, Director of Communications. "At the time the campaign was announced publicly last Friday, the College had received gifts and pledges of $80 million."

In reaction to the hire of Susan Rosenberg, 30 police officers from Rockland County, NY, picketed outside of the Historical Society. The officers involved were members of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. The protest lasted approximately one and a half hours.

Although reaction to the officers was respectful, many in attendance were surprised by the officers' picketing. "There was some surprise that the police would picket a Hamilton event, since Susan Rosenberg had been teaching at John Jay College in Manhattan for more than two years without incident," said Debraggio.

The hiring of Rosenberg had sparked controversy among donors, as well. "We heard from donors at all levels that they were disturbed with the appointment of Susan Rosenberg," said Debraggio. "A number of people told us they would not support the College because of Ms. Rosenberg's hiring."

On Wednesday, December 8, 2004, Hamilton College announced that Rosenberg would

*see **Campaign**, page 2*

New Dean of Multicultural Affairs appointed

by Whitney Kimmel '08
ASSISTANT ICI EDITOR

As Dean of Multicultural Affairs Marc David steps forward to take on a new and exciting career at Dillard College, the Hill has just as much to be excited about. Dr. Roxanne Bellamy-Campbell has agreed to fill the interim position as Dean of Multicultural Affairs until the end of next semester.

As Dean of Students Nancy Thompson stated, "The situation was kind of unusual ... Marc had this wonderful opportunity come up, but this is not a normal time to do a full-fledged search for people to fill this position. Because Roxanne has been working with the College since last spring with the gospel choir and the Chaplain's music program, we knew Roxanne and she knows many of the students already. She was a really logical choice! A full search was unnecessary for the moment because we knew Roxanne was doing some of the things or things closely related with what the Assistant Dean does. With her Ph.D. in psychology and her great credentials, she fortunately was an easy choice and agreed to fill the position."

Dr. Bellamy-Campbell has been working with Hamilton College since the spring of last year and has graciously accepted the opportunity to work in this new capacity. She will also be keeping close connections with the Chaplaincy in order to continue her good work and strong foundation there.

Both Dr. Bellamy-Campbell and Dean Thompson agree that Marc David has done wonderful work at Hamilton College, but that the opportunity before him is more than promising. When asked about her feelings on the departure of Dean David and her new position, Dr. Bellamy-Campbell stated, "It is very difficult to see Dean Marc David leave Hamilton College. He has been an incredibly positive role model for many in the community. He truly has enriched the Hamilton College culture. His presence will be sorely missed. So, here I stand in the gap, offer

*see **Dean**, page 4*

CHAPLAINCY
Current Dean of Multicultural Affairs Marc David with future Dean Dr. Roxanne Bellamy-Campbell.

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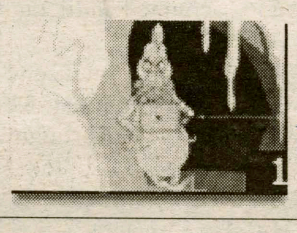

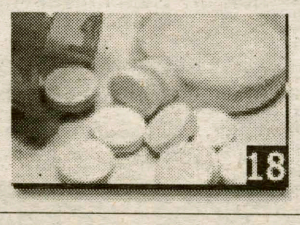

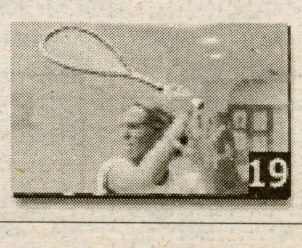

Faculty debates Rosenberg

by Alexandra Sear '05
MANAGING EDITOR

The topic of Susan Rosenberg was the primary focus of the last faculty meeting of the semester last Tuesday, December 7 in the Barn, held prior to Rosenberg's withdrawal on Wednesday. Also addressed at the meeting was a motion from the Committee on Academic Policy regarding course scheduling.

After the general discussion at last month's meeting regarding class-scheduling issues, the Committee on Academic Policy proposed a motion to create another 75-minute slot for classes on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., which would only be used by courses being taught in multiple sections. The CAP also attached a list of guidelines not contained in the motion, recommending that a portion of every department's classes be scheduled in non-peak times before moving to this slot, that the courses beginning at 4 p.m. have three or more sections, and that students with immovable afternoon schedules (i.e., rehearsals and athletic practices) be accommodated in other sections. After the Athletic Department and several faculty members expressed concern that this plan did not contain sufficient guidelines, and that putting some of the less popular class slots, like 9 a.m. and Friday afternoons, to better use may solve the problem, the motion was tabled.

The discussion of Rosenberg's hiring began after President Stewart's address. Stewart began her remarks by briefly mentioning last month's report from the Task Force on Academic and Student Life, saying she will "move expeditiously to recruit a new head of student life," which, though not an entirely new position, needs to be filled "very soon."

She then turned to what she said was "the matter most on my mind," the controversy surrounding the hiring of Susan Rosenberg and subsequent media attention.

Stewart said that she had both met with the Trustees in New York about the matter before the kickoff of the Excelsior Capital Campaign last weekend, and that she also addressed the matter at the kickoff event itself.

The impact on the College of the media coverage and alumni response to the hiring was both Stewart's and the Trustees' major concern. She said that she "stood firm in full support of faculty control of curriculum decisions," and thus it was not her place to take action. However, she followed this by saying that she needed to inform the faculty of what was happening with the issue off-campus and in the alumni community in order that everyone "could work together in the best interest of the College in controlling the escalating damage."

The President's office has been receiving "hundreds of emails, letters, and telephone calls" from parents, alums, and generous donors, Stewart said, as well as from law-enforcement officials and members of the general public. "The vast majority," she added, were against bringing Rosenberg to campus to teach a half-credit course, and not against her presence on campus for a lecture or talk.

The College has already lost volunteer support at all levels, as well as donations, Stewart said. She added that Dean of Admission Monica Inzer had reported that many students applying to Hamilton may withdraw their applications. Before opening the floor for discussion, Stewart asked the faculty to please offer suggestions for a compromise on how to best handle the issue.

In response to a question about whether the fallout from this issue will affect the College as much as the Residential Life Decision of 1995 (after which fraternities no longer allowed to have their own houses), Vice President of Communications and Development Dick Tantillo said that this situation will have greater off-campus long-term effects on the College. Tantillo emphasized that, in 25 years of working in higher education, he's "never seen an alumni outpouring like this." Even apart from lower Annual Fund contributions, the College is in danger of losing several multi-million dollar campaign contributions. Tantillo also expressed his worries that "a lot of the College's volunteer work is gone," as class agents and presidents, among others, are withdrawing their support from the College.

Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Comparative Literature and Director of the Kirkland Project Nancy Rabinowitz responded on behalf of the Kirkland Project Committee. After passing out a handout clarifying Susan Rosenberg's situation and past, she said that the Kirkland Project "was doing what we can to mitigate the situation for the best interest of the College." She added that "the problem is that this is a matter of principle, and there is no good way to compromise on a matter of principle."

Rabinowitz reminded the faculty that the executive committee and the entire Kirkland Project, and not Rabinowitz alone, made the decision to hire Rosenberg. Other members of the Kirkland project committee echoed this. Rabinowitz also said that the course "was not

*see **Faculty**, page 4*

Mock Trial team enjoys unprecidented success

by Jesse Walker '07
NEWS WRITER

Hamilton College's Mock Trial team faced tough competition this weekend, while at Yale University. Sixty-six teams competed and thirty different colleges and universities were represented. Although the group did not finish within the top ten, this weekend still proved a huge success for Hamilton's two burgeoning teams. "Two out of the three teams we defeated finished top ten in the nation last year, including a very strong Princeton University team," explained co-captain Josh Agins '07.

Two weeks before, the group also achieved a great level of success at Buffalo University where, between the two Hamilton College teams competing, one team finished in second place and the other in tenth place. After having achieved such success this semester, many wonder what's on the docket for next semester.

"Next semester, we hope to host a small competition here at Hamilton College. Teams like Cornell, Syracuse, and The University of Rochester will most likely receive an invitation," announced Agins. The team has not lost sight of the big picture either. "We will also begin preparing for regional competition at the end of March. This competition will be held at St. John's University in Jamaica, Queens, New York" Agins continued. If a Hamilton College team places within the top four out of between forty and fifty teams, then the team heads to Florida for national competition. Co-captain Michael Blasie '07 believes that the team has a strong chance of making this leap to nationals. "We absolutely have good chances. We've narrowly missed the mark before, and this is only our third year of existence."

Why has this team become so successful, so quickly? "This year we were invited to the Yale and Buffalo tournaments for the first time. Thus we've had an opportunity to meet a lot more of the top teams," Blasie explained. "We've steadily gained experience every year, so that less experienced participants gain veteran insight more quickly," Blaise concluded.

This year also marks the first year that this team gained actual legal coaching from a few clerks in the Utica Area, however their

*see **Trial**, page 4*

Technology drives elections

*from **Elections**, page 1*

tion.

"If the Executive Council decides that the allegations do not constitute a violation, then the challenges will die," explained Webb. "The decision regarding the challenges is final."

Should the Executive Council kill the contests, Webb anticipates that the Student Assembly president will order an immediate count of the votes on Friday afternoon.

However, if the Executive Council upholds one or more of the charges, this suggestion must then be approved by a one-half majority of the Central Council. In this case, a decision may not be issued until the next meeting of the Central Council on Monday.

As for what the future may hold if the charges are upheld, Webb couldn't say.

"I really can't even make a prediction," he said. "It could even involve a new election. Whatever the case may be, the Executive Council has the freedom to suggest whatever they see fit, as long as the Central Council agrees to it."

The votes will remain uncounted until the disputes are handled.

Kaufman, one of the candidates against whom charges have been brought, is confident that those contests will be dropped.

Michael Blaise and Alex Taddei declined comment.

This year also marked the election's move to the inter net. The online elections allowed students to vote from any on-campus computer logged onto the network.

Elections Chair Tristan Tomlinson '07 believes that the move online was behind the high voter-turn out at this year's election. While he could not disclose an exact number, Tomlinson said that more voters took to the "polls" than had for the past several years.

"More students turned out to vote than [Director of Student Activities] Lisa Magnarelli '96 ever remembers!" he said.

According to Tomlinson, "I can tell you that out of the four complaints, none of them had to do with the online voting system," he said. "As far as I can tell, it worked out perfectly. There were really no system issues."

In addition to the new online voting system, student listservs and mass emails were employed both as campaign tools and as forums for discussion about the elections. A handful of students used cyberspace to weigh-in on the candidates and the issues. Topics of discussion included the candidates qualifications of character.

Tomlinson was unable to judge if the mass emails had a positive or negative effect on this year's elections. "But I can tell you that it was enough for the campaigns to actually notice it, and to mention it to me. And the majority of the candidates told me that they thought all of the emails had a detrimental effect."

Although Tomlinson believes that there is merit in opening up the dialogue, his feelings about the mass emailing remains mixed. "Anything that opens up discussion is good. Whether or not the discussion itself was good, though, is really up for debate."

$80 million raised toward $175 million campaign goal

*from **Campaign**, page 1*

not being teaching at Hamilton. "Over time, we hope that those who had expressed disappointment with the hiring of Susan Rosenberg will appreciate that the College took a principled stand and that their affection for the College will return," said Debraggio. "To be fair, there are other alumni, although much smaller in number, who reacted positively to the appointment of Ms. Rosenberg. They will likely be disappointed that she is no longer coming to campus."

The New Century campaign, which occurred between 1996-2001, raised $108 million for Hamilton.

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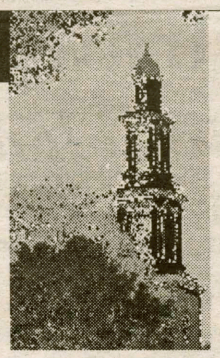


THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Ex-College President Charged With Fraud

ATLANTA (AP) — The former president of Morris Brown College was charged along with an aide Thursday with swindling federal loan programs out of about $5 million by signing up hundreds of students for loans they didn't want and using the money to pay the school's bills.

Dolores Cross, 68, and Parvesh Singh, the 62-year-old former financial aide director at the historically black college, were charged with more than 30 counts of fraud each.

Calls to their attorneys were not immediately returned.

Federal prosecutors said Cross, president from 1999 to 2002, increased school spending by more than $8 million her first year, then sought about 1,800 fraudulent loans to pay for it.

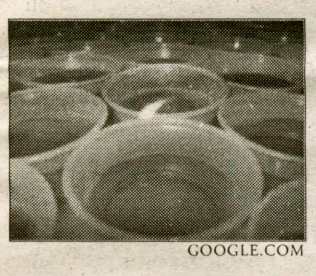
Some of the students no longer attended the college and some never realized there were loans in their names until they applied for credit elsewhere and discovered they had defaulted on them.

Schoolgirl Returns After Jell-O Suspension

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A fourth-grade girl may return to school Friday, having completed a nine-day suspension for bringing to school what appeared to be about 30 "Jell-O shots," school officials said.

Neither a sheriff's spokesman nor school officials would divulge if the gelatin cups contained alcohol.

School officials said testing results are private because they're in the child's disciplinary record.



GOOGLE.COM

The little girl, her mother and school officials met Thursday and agreed the child will also have a hair test to determine if there are any signs of drug use; she and her mother will also undergo a three-hour counseling session with school officials.

The girl's mother, Adrienne Noble, could not be reached Thursday at the French Quarter bar where she works. Earlier, she insisted the Jell-O cups were nonalcoholic treats for her daughter's classmates.

One Time Radical Drops Teaching Plans

CLINTON, New York (AP) -- A former leftist radical who spent 16 years in prison for possessing explosives has withdrawn from teaching a college seminar after her hiring sparked protests.

Susan Rosenberg made her decision because it was in the best interest of all parties, Hamilton College officials said Wednesday.

In response to her hiring, prospective students withdrew applications and donors rescinded hundreds of thousands of dollars in pledges, school officials said.

Rosenberg, who earned a master's degree in creative writing while in prison, was to teach a one-month course in January called "Resistance Memoirs: Writing, Identity and Change."

She was hired through an on-campus organization that focuses on social justice issues.

Rosenberg, who began her activism in the 1970s, was indicted in a 1981 armored car robbery carried out by a gang of radicals. A guard and two Nyack police officers were killed in a shootout.

Rosenberg denied involvement in the robbery, and the charges eventually were dropped.

She was convicted in 1984 of weapons possession. Prosecutors said she had more than 600 pounds of explosives that she and another defendant had planned to use in "non-lethal" bombings.

Since Rosenberg's 58-year prison sentence was commuted in 2001 by President Clinton, she has worked as a writer and an activist for human rights, prisoner rights and AIDS.

She teaches literature at John Jay School of Criminal Justice in New York.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Canadian High Court OKs Same-Sex Marriage

TORONTO (AP) — Canada's Supreme Court ruled Thursday that gay marriage was constitutional, a landmark opinion allowing the federal government to call on Parliament to legalize same-sex unions nationwide.

If approved by a majority of the House of Commons, as widely expected, Canada would become the third country to embrace marriage by homosexuals and lesbians. Belgium and the Netherlands are the other two.

However, the court added that religious officials cannot be forced to perform unions against their beliefs. It also declined to answer a contentious question about whether traditional marriage between men and women also was constitutional.

Prime Minister Paul Martin said after the court's ruling that since judges in six Canadian provinces and one of its territories already allow gay marriages, it should be approved nationwide. He said his government would introduce a bill shortly after Christmas.

He noted that members of Parliament would be free to vote their conscience, but his Cabinet ministers would have to support his bill.

Europeans Toast Powell With Farewell Gifts

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Colin Powell's NATO colleagues brewed up some festive cheer for the departing secretary of state, presenting him with some fine European beer as a farewell gift Thursday.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer sent a case of his homeland's renowned Pilsener to Powell, perhaps to toast the improving relations between the two countries after last year's ugly dispute over Iraq. Powell said it was not the first time he'd had such a gift.

"It is a little joke that Joschka and I have played on each other for several years," Powell told a news conference.

"I expressed my admiration for German flip-top beer one day, the kind with the little top that pops off and Joschka sent me a case.

I enjoyed it very much, and the next time I saw him, since he's a member of the Greens Party, I gave him the empties back."

NATO's Secretary General Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer also gave Powell beer - a selection of some of Belgium's famed suds.

De Hoop Scheffer joked that Powell should not be too worried about one called Morte Subite - "sudden death" - one of Brussels' favorite brews and relatively harmless in small doses.

Sharon Wins Vote to Rescue Gaza Pullout

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon easily won a crucial party vote to reinforce his shaky government to carry out his Gaza pullout plan, party officials announced Thursday.

Sharon's proposed inviting the dovish Labor Party and Orthodox Jewish parties to join his government, ensuring a solid majority for his Gaza withdrawal plan in the face of internal opposition from his Likud Party.

Cabinet minister Israel Katz announced that the final count of the vote in the Likud Central Committee was 62 percent in favor of Sharon's proposal and 38 percent against.

A loss in the Central Committee could have forced new elections and jeopardized the Gaza withdrawal - a centerpiece of efforts to restart peace talks with the Palestinians in the wake of Yasser Arafat's death.

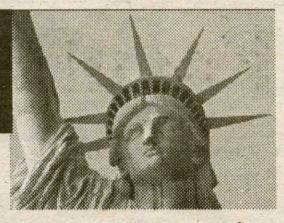
The win clears the way to adding Labor, a partner solidly in favor of the Gaza pullout and resumption of peace negotiations.

There was some opposition among Labor activists to joining their archrival Sharon in another government, after their first joint government broke up in 2002.

However, party leader Shimon Peres strongly favored entering the government.

The Likud committee voted in August against inviting Labor to join the government. But after Sharon fired a key coalition partner for voting against his budget on Dec. 1, his coalition was more tenuous than ever. He had warned that the choice now was Labor or elections.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Bush Rules Out Social Security Tax Hike

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Thursday ruled out raising taxes to finance the centerpiece of his second-term domestic agenda: a Social Security overhaul to help the system survive an impending wave of retiring baby boomers.

Three years after his Social Security commission issued recommendations on how to repair the system, Bush remained noncommittal Thursday on how he would pay for the estimated $2 trillion cost of revamping Social Security. But vast new borrowing seemed increasingly likely.

"I will not prejudge any solution," Bush said in the Oval Office after meeting with the Social Security trustees who submit an annual report on the state of the program's funding. But he went on to say, "We will not raise payroll taxes to solve this problem."

Bush reiterated a 2000 campaign pledge to let younger workers invest some of their payroll taxes in the stock market. Bush's commission urged that younger Americans be allowed to place 1 to 4 percent of their income into a private account to be invested in the stock market for retirement. Promised benefits would be reduced for younger workers, with investments expected to make up the difference. Workers who chose not to invest would get the reduced benefit alone.

White House aides said Bush also remained committed to making no changes in benefits for those at or near retirement.

Five Killed in Shooting Rampage at Club

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — It looked like something out of a macabre heavy-metal video: The lights dimmed in the smoke-filled nightclub, the rock band Damageplan launched into its first thunderous riffs, and then a man in a hooded sweatshirt ran the length of the stage and opened fire, shooting the lead guitarist at least five times in the head.

In just minutes, the gunman had killed three others before being shot to death by a police officer.

The rampage Wednesday night stunned the heavy metal world and left police searching for answers about what set the gunman off.

The slain guitarist, "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott, 38, was a driving force behind the rock band Pantera, and police are looking into reports from witnesses that the gunman was a fan irate that the hugely influential group broke up.

Paper Barred From Fort Carson Over Story

DENVER (AP) — Army officials barred Denver Post reporters from Fort Carson because the newspaper published an article about soldiers unhappy with their health care, a military spokesman said.

Chief spokesman Lt. Col. David Johnson said the newspaper has been eliminated from an e-mail list used to make official statements and send invitations to events. A Post reporter was also told Wednesday she could not attend a deployment ceremony that other reporters were allowed to cover.

Relations were suspended temporarily "as a direct result of Fort Carson not being given fair and balanced treatment in a story that appeared on Dec. 5, 2004," Johnson told the Post for an article published Thursday.

Sunday's front-page report focused on mentally and physically ill National Guard and Army Reserve members who say they have been denied quality care and are being pushed out of the service without disability pay. Congress has been reviewing so-called "medical holds" at bases across the country.

Post Editor Greg Moore said the story was thorough, balancing the concerns of the soldiers with a substantial response from the military.

"It's our job to investigate issues like these and explain them to our readers, many of whom have family members serving in the military," Moore said. "We hope Fort Carson officials reconsider their ban of The Denver Post. If they don't, we will appeal to senior military officers at Fort Carson and in Washington, and through any other legal or congressional channels that are available to us."

Reactions to Rosenberg's withdrawal mixed

*from **Rosenberg**, page 1*

pounds of explosives.

Although Rosenberg was sentenced to 58 years in a federal prison, she was pardoned in 2001 by President William Clinton. While in prison, Rosenberg earned her MFA and was reported to be a model prisoner.

In 2002, she began her teaching career as an adjunct professor of Thematic Studies at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Although she is currently teaching, Rosenberg's contract will expire next month, and she will not be hired for any future sessions, said an official at John Jay.

Rosenberg's hire by Hamilton attracted national media attention, cumulating in last week's picket of the capital campaign kick-off by the Rockland County Police Benevolence Association. Throughout the media storm, the College supported the Kirkland Project's appointment, citingthe college's belief in academic freedom.

But according to Vice President for Communication and Development Dick Tantillo, all of this press had a negative effect on the reputation of the college. "Scores of national media markets, both print and electronic, ran this story in a very negative light," he said.

In addition, Tantillo stated that "hundreds and hundreds" of alumni, parents and friends of the College have responded to Rosenberg's hire. "Clearly, our alumni have been very passionate about this appointment," said Tantillo. "Predominantly, they have been very negative about this appointment."

Tantillo said that many have threatened to withdraw their contributions to the College as a result of Rosenberg's hiring. He anticipates that the losses could result in hundreds of thousands of dollars to this year's Annual Fund.

According to Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Monica Inzer, Rosenberg's appointment has also impacted this year's admission process. Hundreds of prospective families contacted the Office of Admission stating that they were no longer considering Hamilton, Inzer said.

Both Inzer and Tantillo hope that Rosenberg's decision to withdraw will enable the college to move forward in a positive light.

As for professors and students, reactions to Rosenberg's withdrawl are mixed.

Kirkland Project Director and Professor of Comparative Literature Nancy Rabinowitz was saddened to hear of Rosenberg's decision. "Susan Rosenberg, acting as a true professional, has made a personal sacrifice to help Hamilton College," Rabinowitz said. "I regret having to accept her withdrawal; it is a loss for the Hamilton students and faculty who would have gained from her wisdom and expertise."

She added, "It is a bleak day for the principles of academic and intellectual freedom."

Sarah Stern '07 cried when she heard the news. "I am disappointed," said Stern, who had enrolled in Rosenberg's course. "This isn't something that could have been taught by just anyone. Who better to teach than someone who lived a life of resistance?"

But not all members of the staff share in Rabinowitz's and Stern's disappointment. Professor of History Robert Paquette is pleased that Rosenberg will not be coming to Hamilton to each a credit-bearing course. "I regard this development as a victory for standards, which was the central issue for me," said Paquette, a strong opponent of Rosenberg's appointment on the Hill. "At times, Hamilton College can seem quite insulated from the world. This affair should reaffirm to all involved that we are indeed part of a much larger community."

Michael Proia '05 is also happy that Rosenberg will not be coming to the Hill next semester. "This is just one more black eye than our college needs righ t now," he said. "We should focus on moving-on and rebuilding our reputation."

With the dust now settled from the debate, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty expressed his extreme pride in the faculty for their handling of the discourse. "I thought they provided a thorough, respectful discussion even despite their profound disagreements," he said. "They've done a magnificent job."

David says goodbye

*from **Dean**, page 1*

ing my best to the Hamilton College community to help bridge this transition. I look forward to an exciting semester and all that Multicultural Affairs has to offer the community this Spring." With Bellamy-Campbell's enthusiasm and dedication, the switch will no doubt be a seamless one.

As Dean Thompson stated, "I think Roxanne has a wonderful rapport with the students and will be able to support their activities and goals. She is very energetic and creative and excited to have this opportunity to expand the work she does with students on the Hill."

Dr. Bellamy-Campbell is "looking forward to providing the support that the students and student organizations need to accomplish that which they aspire to" and looks forward to helping with "anything constructive to sustain and enhance the program that Dean Karen Green and Dean Marc David have already established."

She finds, "working with students in a supportive capacity and utilizing their enthusiastic creativity to transform ideas into plans, plant into actions and actions into their successes" the most appealing part of her job. Her work at Hamilton will, no doubt, reflect this passion. She stated, "My short-term goal is to execute ideas and plans that have already been incubated. As Dean David stated, he is passing the torch. I am very pleased to receive the torch and carry it forward, bringing former plants to fruition while assisting innovative plans to build upon the existing program."

It is a comfort to know that Dean David's strong work will be continued by such an ambitious and qualified successor. Although Dr. Bellamy-Campbell has been hired to "fill an interim position for right now in order to finish this academic year," according to Dean Thompson, "[The college] will be doing a search this spring, so she may or may not choose to apply for that position for the long-term." No matter what Dr. Bellamy-Campbell decides to do, there is no doubt that she will be an asset to the Multicultural Affairs program in the wake of Dean David's departure.

Faculty discuss possibilities for compromise in hiring Rosenberg

*from **Faculty**, page 2*

about Rosenberg's beliefs" but about memoir writing.

Many members of the faculty then weighed in on Rosenberg's qualifications and the merit of having her teach, some citing academic freedom as the primary reason she should be here, others suggesting her past actions did not merit appointment to Hamilton. Associate Professor of History Douglas Ambrose encapsulated the issue at hand: "We've been hearing from lots of people across the political spectrum, and we exercise this sovereignty [over the outcome] for the College as a whole," adding that "we do not have carte blanche... we need to acknowledge that this has offended many people on a deep moral level, and we didn't know it would. We have to account for that."

President Stewart added that Rosenberg's semester-to-semester appointment at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, part of the City University of New York, was not going to be renewed. Stewart did not say whether this was in response to the publicity surrounding of her Hamilton appointment, only that, in speaking with the President of John Jay, he cited his relationship with the New York City Police Department.

Many possibilities for compromise were suggested. Assistant Professor of Government Peter Cannavó suggested hosting a campus-wide open dialogue and forum, which President Stewart said would occur. Others suggested turning the course into a non-credit-bearing class, or deciding that Rosenberg should not have faculty status while on campus. President Stewart said that these changes would likely not alleviate the problems, as "those distinctions are lost" on the people contacting her in protest.

Ultimately, deciding exactly what to do was put on hold until after the Kirkland Project could meet on Wednesday. The day after this faculty-wide discussion, Rosenberg withdrew from teaching the course (see Rosenberg, page 1, for full coverage).

At the end of the meeting, Paris thanked the faculty for "one of the most thorough, thoughtful, and productive discussions" he's seen. He then congratulated both Elihu Root Peace Fund Associate Professor of Women's Studies Vivyan Adair, recent recipient of the Carnegie Foundation's New York State Professor of the Year award, and Women's Soccer coach Collette Gilligan, who won the Foundation's Soccer Coach of the Year Award for the entire state.

Hamilton Mock Trial team defeats Yale

*from **Trial**, page 2*

attendance has been difficult because they commute to New York City on a regular basis. Blasie clarified that, although they have only attended three practices, "We are still very happy to have them, and appreciate their help."

Some may wonder how the Mock Trial process works. Agins offered a brief sketch of Mock Trial proceedings. "The American Mock Trial Association presents one fictional case every year, and those involved with a team play either witnesses or attorneys. Then, we act out court proceedings in a manner very similar to what would occur in an actual courtroom. We have direct examinations as well as closing and opening arguments, and a small panel of judges score our proceedings."

The case presented this year is a civil law suit involving an institutionalized mental patient, who was released after two years. "The man was subsequently involved in a motor vehicle altercation, where he eventually hit another motorist with a tire iron," Agins explained. The allegations become even more interesting when the Mock Trial Association added this twist: "The man who was struck and irreparably injured happened to be a very talented golfer, who had a promising pro career ahead of him," described Agins. This case deals with negligence on the part of the doctor, who may have released this mental patient without proper reason. Forensic economics come into play here in order to gauge the former golfer's possible earnings if this life-changing altercation had not occurred.

The Hamilton College Mock Trial teams explored the contents of this case extensively, but success does not only deal with the tremendous degree of research required to present a convincing argument. "There is a degree of theatrics involved within Mock Trial," stated Blasie. "As a witness you want to remain that character without losing credibility by over-emphasizing character. It's a very delicate balance, which requires one to think on their feet during interrogations," Blasie added.

Mock Trial team member Dillon Prime '07 scored well during the Yale tournament, enough so to earn him a second place finish. He received nineteen out of a possible twenty points, which actually tied him for first. Sadly, the announcement of his placement came after the award was distributed, so he didn't receive an actual trophy.

Due to misinformation provided to the *Spectator*, the December 3 issue claimed that the Hamilton student accused of filesharing was fined $15,000, while in fact no further action has been taken beyond the sunpoena. In addition, Dave Smallen wished to add the following thought. "The music industry is in transition from one medium to another, and in the future music will primarily be distributed over networks rather than on CD, and at this point there are only a few legal services that make this possible,"he said.

Editorial

The Spectator

The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

It's the end of an era, and Kat and Alex are tasking over the editorial page to say our farewell. Our tenures as Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor are up. Starting next semester, Ian Mandel '06 will take the reins as the new Editor-in-Chief for 2005. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic staff, who spend every Thursday with us trapped on the third floor of Bristol and never settle for anything less than being great.

First of all, our senior editor with the most-est (sorry Takacs, it's not you): Mike Proia. Not only did you consistently write the longest articles the paper saw (well, except for Sear's novels on faculty meetings), you never let the Sports section down. And Takacs, even though your presence became increasingly rare, we still followed in your footsteps. We hope Ian will continue the Spec's constant course of improvement.

Our News girls, Greta and Emma (or, as Sear says, "Gremma"): you both jumped head first into the deep end, and handled some tough issues really well. Props.

Britt. You should say to yourself, "Self, I did a great job with I&I." You show us all what a good attitude, and a constant supply of gum, can do. Take care of the newbie, Whitney Kimmell (aka, "mini-Britt"): if anyone can fill your shoes, she can.

Emily Lemanczyk and Katie Childs: the dynamic duo, bottling efficiency and the best layouts we've seen in a long time (ok, ever). Emily, we wish you joined us sooner, and Katie, you'll be running everything on campus soon anyway.

A&E (Whit and Tim) claimed a space in our hearts for badassity, and won the awards for both the longest captions and the most in-jokes (witness this week's Grinch-inspired poetry and shameless pirate pun).

Nerdiness (oops, did we mean Science?) also consistently performed, with Kat and Jon delivering all the 'tech, and Mars Rovers, we could ever want.

Allison Kerbel, single-handedly leading the charge against typos everywhere: we heart you.

Bleeker, we still don't know what you do here, but thanks. We think.

Matt Palascak, our pinch-hitter: thank you for stepping in whenever we needed you for layout, tech help, or anything at all.

The photo team also kicked it up a notch, transitioning to color and making everything look better. The paper would also have been considerably less funny without Tom Booth's weekly cartoons, which always summed up exactly what we were all thinking.

"The Sports Guys": you've been here almost as long as we have, and gave the campus and great eye and ear on the athletic scene. We'll miss having a Spec man of the year.

We also added a new section for the first time in a long time, thanks to the tireless efforts of B&E editor Tim Foley: keep it going-you've been fantastic.

A special shout-out to our technical and office staff: Adam Ericson, our tireless and responsible ad manager, and Tara & Rebecca, who kept the gears running smoothly and the papers delivered.

With our heartfelt thanks, we bid you adieu. See you in the pub.

The Spectator

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Insights & Ideas

Rosenberg's departure is Hamilton's loss

by Nancy Rabinowitz
MARGARET BUNDY SCOTT PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE AND DIRECTOR OF THE KIRKLAND PROJECT

I regret that the events surrounding Susan Rosenberg's appointment and her decision to withdraw mostly took place among the faculty, and that the Kirkland Project did not address you directly. Let me take this opportunity to spell a few things out.

Rosenberg was convicted of possession of weapons (explosives and firearms) and false identification papers. She was sentenced to 58 years in prison and served 16 years, some of it in a maximum security prison. President Clinton granted her executive clemency and commuted her sentence.

Debate about her visit to Hamilton centered primarily around her history of involvement with a group supporting violent political actions; she was indicted for conspiracy to commit the Brinks robbery that tragically left two officers and a security guard dead. She maintains her innocence; others disagree, but Susan never had the opportunity to clear her name. She was never tried, much less convicted, of anything related to the Brinks robbery; she is not a cop killer.

In any case, Rosenberg has changed over the past twenty years, and today she firmly renounces violence. The chaplain, under whose supervision Rosenberg worked for three years, said, "I see inmate Rosenberg's public rejection of terrorism and violence as a method for social change to be thoroughly sincere. In fact, I am witness to this rejection and conversion which has allowed her to develop in prison as a peace-loving and caring woman who knows how to make decent and positive choices in relation to herself and towards others." (Clemency Memorandum)

Is she never to be forgiven for her past? Can she never change? Should she have been held unfit to teach at Hamilton because of an indictment, or is she innocent until proven guilty?

A second objection was raised as well-some felt that she lacked the credentials to teach at Hamilton. The Kirkland Project disagrees. We selected Susan Rosenberg as an artist-in-residence after her very successful campus visit last year; she articulated the importance of education in interrupting the cycle of violence and imprisonment that plagues communities of color in the U.S. We invited her back in part to work with people on a prison-education initiative.

*see **Rabinowitz,** page 9*

More than academic freedom...

by Robert Simon
PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

I am writing to dissent from the analysis of the issues presented by those colleagues on the faculty and staff who, in a letter to last week's Spectator, supported Susan Rosenberg's one month appointment at the College. Whether or not her appointment is one a College program has a right to make, I believe their letter fails to address important questions raised by the appointment. I write not necessarily to oppose her appointment but to contribute to dialogue by identifying other issues that are at stake.

Contrary to what the letter suggests, serious critics have not opposed the appointment because they claim Ms. Rosenberg's ideas should not be represented in the academic community. Surely, the issue is not whether we should tolerate conflicting opinions or engage intellectually with opposing viewpoints, or support the open and civil exchange of ideas. Radical ideas are debated regularly on campus, speakers highly critical of the existing social and political order are often invited to speak, and such critics also are well represented on the faculty.

I suggest that the major issues are not whether a college program has the right to appoint Ms. Rosenberg or even whether she now has a right to teach here (academic freedom may support both rights). Also in question is whether this appointment was made in a judicious way, sensitive to the morally relevant considerations that might apply.

So if questions of academic freedom and free inquiry are not the major issues at stake, or at least not the only major issues, what are the key points that should be considered?

First, was the appointment made in an open manner that was fair to the community? Was it appropriate to initially describe Ms. Rosenberg as having been imprisoned for political activism, in effect implying that she was simply a political prisoner? Were there adequate opportunities for discussion and debate of the issues raised by Ms. Rosenberg's candidacy? If not, do the procedures for making such appointments need to be examined and revised?

A second pertinent issue not addressed in the recent letter concerns whether it is appropriate to consider Ms. Rosenberg's past criminal record and the nature of her crimes (as well as her behavior as a model prisoner and other considerations advanced in her defense) in evaluating her candidacy? Consider the question raised by Diane O'Grady in her letter to The Spectator. Is there some line of acceptable behavior that when crossed disqualifies one from an academic appointment? If so, where is that line to be drawn? Don't those questions deserve to be taken seriously, whatever the answer turns out to be? Suppose, for example, that we were considering the appointment of someone convicted of having carried huge amounts of explosives designed to be used against abortion providers, and who also was a suspect in the killing of a physician who performed abortions (although not tried for that crime) and whose sentence was commuted by President Bush at the urging of pro-life groups. Would those who questioned such an appointment necessarily be opponents of free inquiry, critical debate, and academic freedom, or would they be raising questions worthy of consideration?

Of course, reasonable people may take different stands on such complex issues as just what moral criteria, if any, candidates for academic appointments should be expected to satisfy. But people with different answers to those questions can all agree on the importance of crucial academic values, such as principles of free inquiry and debate.

Therefore, I suggest that if the issue is to be debated further, as is likely, we all make every effort to respect the moral integrity of those who disagree with us and attempt to address their legitimate concerns. For example, the College might make special efforts to explain to outside groups, such as police organizations, that understandably may be upset over the appointment that the college community rejects the idea of violence directed against police and is morally outraged at the behavior for which Ms. Rosenberg has served time, but also that some of us believe she is a reformed person who has a contribution to make to the academic enterprise.

While I respect the concerns of the signatories of last week's letter, I have suggested that by framing the issues in terms of academic freedom, critical engagement with views different from our own, and the value of intellectual exchange, they have addressed a position that thoughtful critics of the Rosenberg appointment do not hold and, by implication, suggest that all those who question the appointment have less of a commitment to core academic values than those who support it.

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Who Cares?

- Joan serving pancakes in Commons: finally putting that Ph.D. to work

- Cheerleaders in Commons. First time we've seen them there

- Bela Fleck: best 40 minute flute solo ever

- Student Assembly Elections: voting for the other guy 'cause he filled the shot glass

- Midyear lottery: your next single is where I park my car

- Campus Saftey breaking up your Hanukkah dreidle ring

- Dry Week: as effective as Prohibition

- Begging for money at Senior Dinner. I'm hammered and I'm still apathetic.

by Ryan Burns '05, Jeff Friedman '05 and Lou Vaickus '05

- Cold weather streaking: we probably won't see their *members* until spring

- Freshmen: as welcome as leeches with herpes

- Susan Rosenberg finding Hamilton College less appealing than a 6 year stint at San Quentin

- The return of the Daily Bull: I was more excited to see my crabs come back

Indecision 2004: *Hamilton style*

by Britten Chase '05
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS EDITOR

Edtor's note: This article is based on word of mouth, hearsay, and things the writer may or may not have made up. It was written with the expressed purpose of satire and should not be read as serious. Maybe it even shouldn't even be read at all. But it's up to you.

So, the question leading up to the elections this year was who was going to be the Florida of 2004. And the verdict is in. The winner is...

Florida? No way, think they'd make the same mistake twice?

Pennsylvania? Nah, they pulled it together.

Ohio? Get outta here.

Hamilton College?

Yay!

Just when you thought it couldn't get any better than naked darksiders and semi-automatic weapons, Hamilton has done it again. Scandal, politics and lawyers are now flocking to our hilltop haven. All at the same time.

Of course the difference between the 2000 presidential (of the country) election and the 2004 presidential (student assembly) election is that, in 2000 the entire country came to a standstill. The entire world looked on in amazement. Here, the entire campus could wake up the next morning not knowing who the student assembly president is and still be very content with ourselves.

So here is the story as I have come to understand it. Keep in mind this may be not be wholly accurate for three reasons: first, the only thing on this campus faster than our high speed internet connections is the rate at which rumors pertaining to this situation spread. Second, I am not so much an "investigative journalist," as I am more a "writer-of-things." Third, my dad is a lawyer too and if I am wrong I can certainly counter-sue.

Apparently one of our esteemed candidates for student assembly president said some things he shouldn't have said to another member of the student body during the first week of his freshman year. This rant included hate speech pertaining to blacks and homosexuals, of which the student was both. This student then confronted the potential-future-student-assembly-president, who was drunk at the time. The offender e-mailed the offendee the next morning to apologise, the apology was accepted and life went on until it became clear that the offendee could become the most powerful student on campus (read: still powerless). The offendee was then compelled to relate his experiences out of fear that the offender could be elected as the president of the Student Assembly and hold tremendous influence over the campus.

The offendee then e-mailed everyone he knew and encouraged them to pass the message along. If you e-mailed one person you would have good luck for a day, five people meant good luck for the week, and fifteen or more meant that your crush would confess his or her eternal love for you. Naturally, the e-mail spread like wildfire and got back to the offender. In response, the offender circulated an e-mail of his own claiming that the incident was in the past when he was a youngster; he had just gotten to Hamilton, he had lived a sheltered life in the South, he was drunk and heavily under the influence of Open Mic Night.

At least this situation answers one question. If we want to get rid of hate on this campus, all we need to get rid of is drinking, Southeners, and anyone who plays an acoustic guitar.

I digress. Unfortunately, upon circulation of the first e-mail, the election was only hours away. The damage had already been done. The potential-future-student-assembly-president then contacted his team of legal representatives (dad and friends) and presented the offendee with an angry letter. The letter stated that the offendee was defaming the offender, and that the offendee should cease and desist, issue an apology, or face the consequences. The offendee responded by hiring his own lawyer (not Johnnie Cochrin) who responded to the potential-future-student-assembly-president and his lawyers saying that they were a bunch of hateful Southern punks, the potential-future-student-assembly-president had drinking problems, and the offendee could say whatever he pleased.

Meanwhile, the potential-future-student-assembly-president was contesting the results of the election due to the issue of defamation. All at the same time that a different potential-future-student-assembly-president was contesting the result of the election due to bribery. Allegedly, the original potential-future-student-assembly-president was distributing shot glasses to freshmen. Yep, the one with the drinking problem was distributing shot glasses.

Once again, Hamilton has redefined ridiculous.

So what now? Should the possible-maybe-future-president-elect be shunned forever? It is rumored that occasionally, here at Hamilton, people get drunk. Oh, and make mistakes. And he did apologise. But still. Can you really blame it on being Southern? It's easy (and well deserved) to blame the South for things like grits, humidity, and calling all carbonated beverages Coke. But it seems like pretty much everyone else in the South managed to make it out without being bigots.

At the same time, why did the offendee wait until the day before the election to make his claims (please no one say because of thefacebook.com)? Obviously his intentions were only to spite the offender. Had the offendee really been worried about the campus he would have immediately filed a claim, sent out an angry e-mail, and we could all have another rally.

Or even a parade.

It's not like smear tactics in a campaign are new or shocking. We just went through one of the most negative Presidential (of the country) campaigns ever. Politics brings out the worst in people. So maybe this is a sign that Hamilton politics has finally made it big time. Who knows.

My hope is that this can all get resolved quickly and in a manner that doesn't hurt any of the candidates, the accuser, or the campus. I hope the students can be led by someone who has experience, who has grace under pressure, who is intellegent and has the ability to work with students, faculty and the administration without alienating anyone. And who is southern. The solution is simple. We've had it all along.

Yes, friends. Just keep Liz Dolan as president.

Self interest takes over the election

by Jonathan Kuhl '06
WASHINGTON D.C. CORRESPONDENT

I'm not convinced that everyone cares who the next Student Assembly President is, but I'm one of the people that do. Deciding how the student body as a whole responds to campus issues, meeting frequently with President Stewart and other administration officials, choosing how our student activities money is spent and much more - the position matters, and this election matters.

Earlier this week I was sent an e-mail. In the e-mail were claims that one of the candidates running for Student Assembly President called the e-mail's author a "nigger" and a "faggot." The candidate responded that he was drunk at the time that he made the comment, and that since then (it was two years ago), he has undergone a transformation into a "better and more accepting person." Intoxicated or not, there is no excuse for such behavior. As a campus, and a community, we should be appalled and disgusted by such behavior. Furthermore, nobody who says such things should ever be elected to represent us as the student body.

Since the initial two emails, and a wave of responses, the candidate has taken legal action against the email's author claiming that what was said about him was potentially slanderous and defamatory not only in the Hamilton College community, but throughout the United States. Maybe it's just me, but it seems a little ridiculous that lawyers have been brought in over an election at the college level. Even more upsetting is the fact that the candidate was seemingly attempting to use lawyers (from his father's law firm) to intimidate a fellow student from sharing something quite relevant with the rest of the campus. If what was written in the email were false, I would certainly agree with the candidate, but it is not (as even the candidate himself acknowledged in his email).

As all of this unfolds, I cannot help but question one's motives. As I see it, anyone who makes such despicable comments, defends his actions instead of apologizing to the community at large, then seeks legal action against the person to whom the slurs were aimed, while still actively running for office, clearly cares little about the community, but instead, solely about himself (and his ambitions 20 years from now).

I don't yet know who won the election, but if someone who makes homophobic and racist remarks is our next Student Assembly President, we as students have a lot of soul-searching to do - I know this isn't the Hamilton I'm proud of.

E-mail to sway the vote?

by Amanda Pooler '08
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

This week an e-mail began circulating around campus encouraging students not to vote for one of the presidential Student Assembly candidates. The e-mail, written as one student's personal testimony against another, claimed that the candidate was "extremely conservative" and that he also "has criticized the existence of groups that support gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning students and their allies." I received this e-mail on Monday. However, after reflection and discussing the issue with my roommate, I chose to ignore theses claims-because that is exactly what they are: claims. How am I to know if this e-mail was a fabrication of a student's imagination based on personal feelings between him/her and the candidate? Knowing neither the writer, nor the candidates for Student Assembly, how can I as an ignorant freshman, judge any of their characters? How can I possibly base my political feelings on hearsay from an e-mail (not even hearing it straight from the source's mouth)?

A friend of mine told me she had received another e-mail calling the same candidate "liberal bashing." However, are not some liberals 'conservative-bashing?' Do not most people identify with one political group and discourage the progress of the opposing party? It seems completely logical to me that one should be able to state his/her political views in private conversation, out of the public realm. Furthermore, why should a Student Assembly candidate's national political affiliation have anything to do with his/her election? There are no political parties ordained for Hamilton elections; students do not run as the "republican candidates" and the "democratic candidates." How do one's feelings concerning the war in Iraq or social security affect leadership in an enclosed environment such as Hamilton College? The answer is that they don't affect it. Student Assembly distributes funds to different organizations on campus, as well as organizing functions for the student body. In the event that the elected candidate was anti-gay/lesbian, the fate of the GLBTQ organization would not be in jeopardy: there is an entire assembly of representatives to vote on funding and recognition as an organization. Student Assembly is not a dictatorship, and one person's personal views will not drastically affect transgressions on the hill. Furthermore, should not a candidate supercede his/her personal views for the overall good of the population?

I am aware that the Hamilton election is not a "big deal," but I believe this issue boils down to a matter of principles. I do not know these candidates, and until I meet them personally, I am unwilling to judge them based on the opinions of my peers.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

All is well folks. To the faculty that denounced Susan Rosenberg's appointment to a temporary teaching position at Hamilton, I commend your selfless acts of moral watchdoggery. You, my faculty friends, should form the backbone of all of this country's institutions of higher learning!

I bequeath unto you my highest commendation; you are all selfless individuals of the highest caliber. I am not privy to one of you that would ever stoop to the tendentious, insensitive and hidebound quote production that is so damaging in today's post 9/11 world. As for the "spineless" members of the faculty that chose to voice their support for Ms. Rosenberg, I try hard, but I can force nary a tear of sympathy.

How dare you, the "open-minded" faculty associated with this college, allow a convicted "terrorist" to bully our impressionable young minds? You heathen individuals that transmit, with an increasing ferocity I may add, the notorious silent disease of the brain some prefer to call open-mindedness! That, after all, is what colleges should most fear; allowing students to absorb diverse opinions. Thankfully, the rest of you, you pillars of altruism, have successfully cinched another diseased vein before it could pump its poisonous rhetoric into the minds of the leaders of tomorrow.

As for the students who opposed Ms. Rosenberg's appointment all along, I have a couple cautionary words. Watch out. One can never be too sure who may be lurking around the next corner trying to educate under the auspices of "increasing intellectual diversity."

As for you, Ms. Rosenberg, apart from losing your current teaching position and being publicly humiliated, I am glad you have learned you are not welcome at Hamilton College. Once and evildoer, always an evildoer.

Finally, alums you can rest easy. It has been successfully demonstrated that Hamilton College is definitely not a place where dirty, dirty diversity can thrive. You can rest assured that your actions will surely put a stop to the admission of those notoriously stingy "liberals."

Samuel Brewster '07

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF _THE SPECTATOR_, ITS EDITORS, ITS STAFF, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE, ADMINISTRATORS, AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION.

1. submissions are due by 6:00p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to bchase@hamilton.edu. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. the spectator will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. the spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. if a piece is determined to be libelous, and unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Hello,

I am outraged by this move to get rid of Susan Rosenberg from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I am currently one of her students and have been for two semesters. This woman is an extremely brilliant person who has served her time and is giving back to the community. The president of John Jay College has shown that he has little to no integrity at all. He has not once spoken to Rosenberg on this matter neither has he found out from the faculty or students what type of person she is. It is very ironic that a school claiming to stand for fairness and justice is acting in an unjust manner. I, as well as many others believe that this is a step in the wrong direction. This just goes to show that the criminal justice system is as unjust as it gets. They have frozen her back in time and refuse o acknowledge the good she has done, the knowledge she ahs passed on, and the more she has to offer. I will continue to write and voice my opinion until someone listens. This is ridiculous!

Respectfully,

Rachel Clarke
John Jay University

The disadvantages of being smart

by Melissa Kong '08
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

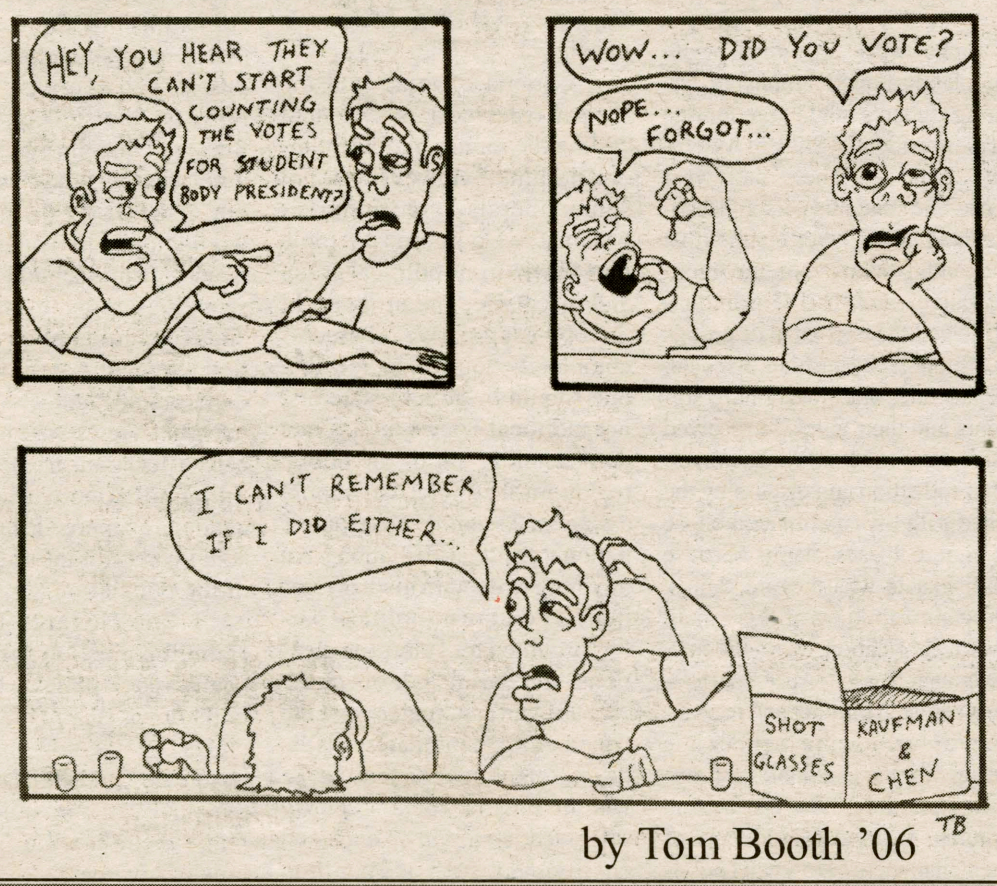
It's exam time. One week, you're enjoying college life; the next, you feel like you've been peed on by every single one of your professors (were all 5 of those paper assignments really necessary?). Now, you find yourself dodging the library like you would the draft, looking for anything to suppress your anxiety over finals that will be 50% of your grade. Ah, the perils of finals week— we are all going through it. Somewhere in between writing papers, studying for finals, and cleaning up all the empty bottles (soda bottles, that is) from last weekend, when life felt a bit less painful, I noticed something. The word "smart" is thrown around a lot. Everyone has heard it: "You're smart, so you'll do great on the final," "You're smart because you actually do the readings," "You're smart—I'll pay you to write my paper" (Just kidding, Honor Code people, just kidding). The funny thing about the word "smart" is that the person you call smart never knows how to respond. How could they? Either way, they lose; it sounds conceited when they say "thank you," but it sounds like they have confidence issues when they say "No, I'm not ." Maybe it's better not to incessantly call people smart, even though we think of it as paying a compliment.

People shouldn't think about how smart they themselves are either; it's also a lose-lose situation. If they start thinking they're smart, there is a good chance of getting big-headed somewhere down the line; if they start thinking they aren't smart, they become self-conscious. Poor smart people, they can never win. My biggest concern is that if we're thinking about how smart other people and ourselves are, it indicates that our focus isn't on the right things.

We concentrate on defining ourselves and others, throwing random people in the boxes that we create, labeled "smart" and "not smart." We all dislike stereotypes, yet we are the ones that create and foster them. On a small campus like Hamilton, it is rather easy to put people in all kinds of labeled boxes. The only way to change that is by being an example of the change you wish to make. Calling a person "smart" seems nice, but it's still a label. By making this nice, stereotypical comment, you facilitate other, more hurtful stereotypes.

Focusing on how smart are unsmart you and other people are is like focusing on the grade you get in a class; the focus shouldn't be on the grade, but rather, what you're doing well and what you can do to make your work better. Similarly, the focus shouldn't be on defining your intelligence, but rather on making sure you're challenging yourself-- pushing yourself in order to fulfill personal academic goals. Instead of asking questions that focus on comparing people to each other and yourself, ask something more personal: "Why am I at Hamilton?" For most, the primary intent is the education. Are you taking advantage of the opportunities that surround you? Are you submerging yourself in a variety of different areas to find what it is you are really passionate about, rather than taking the courses you think will help you make a lot of money when you grow up? How you view schoolwork says a lot about how you view yourself; you can either do as little as possible and be content with getting by, or you can strive to unleash potential that's inside of you. At the end of the day, it isn't about being "smart"-- it's about being happy with yourself, and allowing your academic efforts to be illustrative of the person you are and the character you wish to maintain.

Drawing criticism


HEY, YOU HEAR THEY CAN'T START COUNTING THE VOTES FOR STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT?
WOW... DID YOU VOTE?
NOPE... FORGOT...
I CAN'T REMEMBER IF I DID EITHER...
SHOT GLASSES
KAUFMAN & CHEN
TB

by Tom Booth '06

Now's the time for action! Now's the time for snow?

by Andrew Whalen '08
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

It's time for some answers from the upperclassmen. Myself, and every other freshman now attending Hamilton College has been systematically abused, deceived, manipulated, tricked, duped, chain-yanked, hoodwinked, wool-over-eyed, conned, and bamboozled. I heard the stories. Imparted tales of legendary, almost Biblical events. Cryptic, enchanting tales whispered from ear to ear in rundown, smoky diners.

"It doesn't stop snowing from October till May!" "Every one is given an ice-axe to tunnel their way to classes and to fight off the occasional polar bear." "Hee! Yuki desu!" "Snowdrifts the size of a South Quad abound." "There will be so much snow you'll get sick of it." "Urine freezes before hitting the ground." You've heard the tales. Chances are you, like myself, believed them. I complacently accepted the lies like a duck being stuffed for foie gras.

Now, here we are, December 10. I see no mastodons frolicking around the light-side quad. There has not even been one polar bear attack, and my urine remains shamefully unfrozen. Sure, we have a little bit of snow, just like Iraq has a little bit of order. I realize it is only December, but I was in already in Y2K bunkering mode. I have my ramen lined up neatly on my shelf. I have my down blanket with mystery stains. My snowball making hand is supple and prepared after hours of moisturizing sessions followed by grip-work. I have been diligently attending five daily donut-dining sessions in McEwen to build up the ol' flesh blanket around my waist. I'm ready! Now where's the snow?

Instead of building massive snow lions guarding the door of McIntosh, I find myself planning for the glory days to come. The tantalizing promise of snow has become a chocolate carrot dangling on a stick right in front of me, which in comedic-donkey fashion, I am helpless to reach. The worst part is that I've already been given a nibble. With some green lunch trays, suspiciously resembling McEwen trays, but in fact crafted out of soap and wood shavings, myself and several other men of noble virtue set out to enjoy winter. The sounds of sledding, snow-ball fighting, and urinating rang out across campus like the sounds of sledding, snow-ball fighting, and urinating. Several broken trays, wrists, ankles, and prides later we retired back to our rooms to dream of sugar-plums, lollipops, and grand winter times to come. However, the next morning, little more than slush and our shattered dreams remained strewn across the ground.

The solution must be drastic. If I ever hope to create a luge-tube running from my room to my 9 a.m. class we, as a campus community, must act now. We have waited diligently for snow, only to encounter rain, hail, magical disappearing snow, and fire-balls instead (The bridge-cat was bearding out that day, let me tell you! Ok, I told you). However, there are solutions. I have three possible scenarios that will soon bring us to a stage of winter-wonderland readiness. First, we bring Bobby Drake to campus. A little Ice-Man and this place would be ship-shape in no time! However, considering the current outrage over a new hiring, perhaps bringing a mutant to campus is not the best of ideas. So, this brings us to my second scenario. Currently a bunch of young men and women are running for the thankless role of Student Assembly president. If they would pledge to spend the school's entire activity budget on a system of snow-machines who wouldn't vote for them? Hear that Taddei? Free samples of advice, going fast. Of course, how then could the Student Assembly give tens of thousands of dollars to the Film Production Guild? Therefore, there is only one possible solution, because I must have my snow angels. This action is to be implemented next week. We must all leave campus for a month, and hope that when we come back the snow will be deeper than the Challenger Deep. Here's hoping to a great break, and a million feet of snow.

Commitment to academic freedom?

from Rabinowitz, page 6

Since Ms. Rosenberg has an M.A. in Creative Writing and is an award-winning writer with teaching experience, the Kirkland Project also believed and still believes her to be a teacher who could have offered a valuable perspective on memoirs, especially given her prison experience in which education and writing were central to her survival.

We regret her departure because we believe that the course would have served the Hamilton College mission. The College is committed to academic freedom and to presenting students with a wide range of perspectives while giving them information about how to evaluate and assess what they are presented with. "Resistance Memoirs" called for the kind of intellectual debate envisioned in the College's mission and central to the liberal arts. Moreover, the new curriculum of the College places a great deal of emphasis on student responsibility and independence. Exercising such intellectual responsibilities-which include the obligation to argue with any course material with which they disagree-is at the heart of growing up and becoming an engaged citizen.

In declining to teach at Hamilton, Susan Rosenberg made a personal sacrifice in part for the good of Hamilton College, which was suffering relentless media attacks as a result of the campaign of a few individuals. This whole event and the way it unfolded raises significant questions about academic freedom, about who decides who is fit to speak, who is fit to teach. Will curricular decisions be made in the press or in the College? In this instance, Susan Rosenberg acted like a consummate professional; this fire storm has cost her and the College a great deal.

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Items
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Hormel Foods

Pizza

	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Slices
Garlic Slices ..... 1.16 each + tax
Pizza Slices ..... 1.16 each + tax
Extras ..... 35c each

10 Wings 4.75
20 Wings 6.75
30 Wings 8.75
40 Wings 11.95
50 Wings 13.95
60 Wings 15.95
70 Wings 17.95
80 Wings 19.95
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100 Wings 24.95
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Bleu Cheese 85c Extra
Buffalo Style CHICKEN WINGS

Features

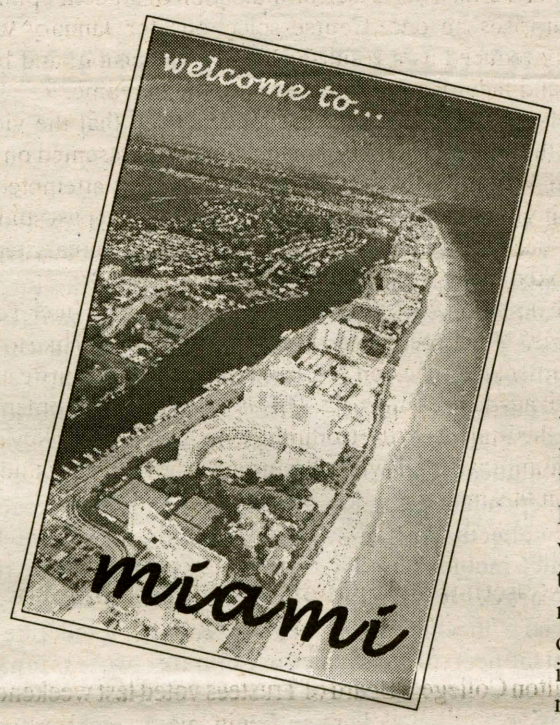
Cold got you down? Think spring (break, that is)!

by Kristy Hague '05
FEATURES WRITER

It's an internal debate that haunts most college students throughout their four years at school: what do I do for my spring break? While this query might not rank as high as questions like, "who am I?" and "what is my purpose in life?," it represents an important dilemma in our college experience.

Over the course of our high school years, we were been bombarded with images of happy, drunk, and mostly nude spring breakers blissfully participating in any and every form of debauchery. Places like Cancun, Panama City, and Negril have built reputations and entire local economies solely on the funds from college student's meager bank accounts. During a high school spring break, I distinctly remember sitting on the floor of my grandparents' house watching MTV's spring break shows and thinking, "maybe I don't want to go to college if it entails being wrapped up in a fake burrito with a boy I don't know and sitting in sour cream, ground beef, and salsa for an hour in the Florida sun." Later, I learned that participation in MTV's programming is voluntary and only crazy and/or drunk people would sign up for such a thing.

Despite my high school anxiety, I, like many Hamilton students, have just committed most of my bank account to a spring trip. While most will make pilgrimages to traditional hot spots, others blaze an intrepid trail into colder climates. Since MTV will devote numerous hours of programming to students in tropical locals, I decided to recognize those students who will spend their break singing, streaking, doing community service, and playing lacrosse without necessarily having the benefit of beaches and booze.



The Hamilton College Choir will be going on its European tour over the entire two week period. Every four years, the choir goes international and makes the trip to Europe. This year, the choir will travel to Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, and Poland. "There's a lot of musical history attached to all these countries," noted senior Sondra Conti. In fact, the choir will be singing pieces from composers native to each of the countries they will tour including composers like Bruckner and Persichetti. Choir members will perform five times over the course of their eleven days in abroad. However, the group has plenty of down time to explore each of the cities to which they travel.

Unfortunately, Hamilton's very own nationally recognized championship Streaking Team has no current plans for spring break. After the success of the fall break NESCAC tour, we all had high hopes for another undefeated series of away games. Pete Holzaepfel noted that the team was still working to pay off the $3,600 in fines they received for a disorderly conduct charge after streaking Colgate. The team hopes to regroup in the spring to tour the Ivy League campuses. Until then, keep an eye out for the red carpet premiere of their documentary (most likely airing in February), which will be followed by a "Ma Dick...Again" party in the Annex.

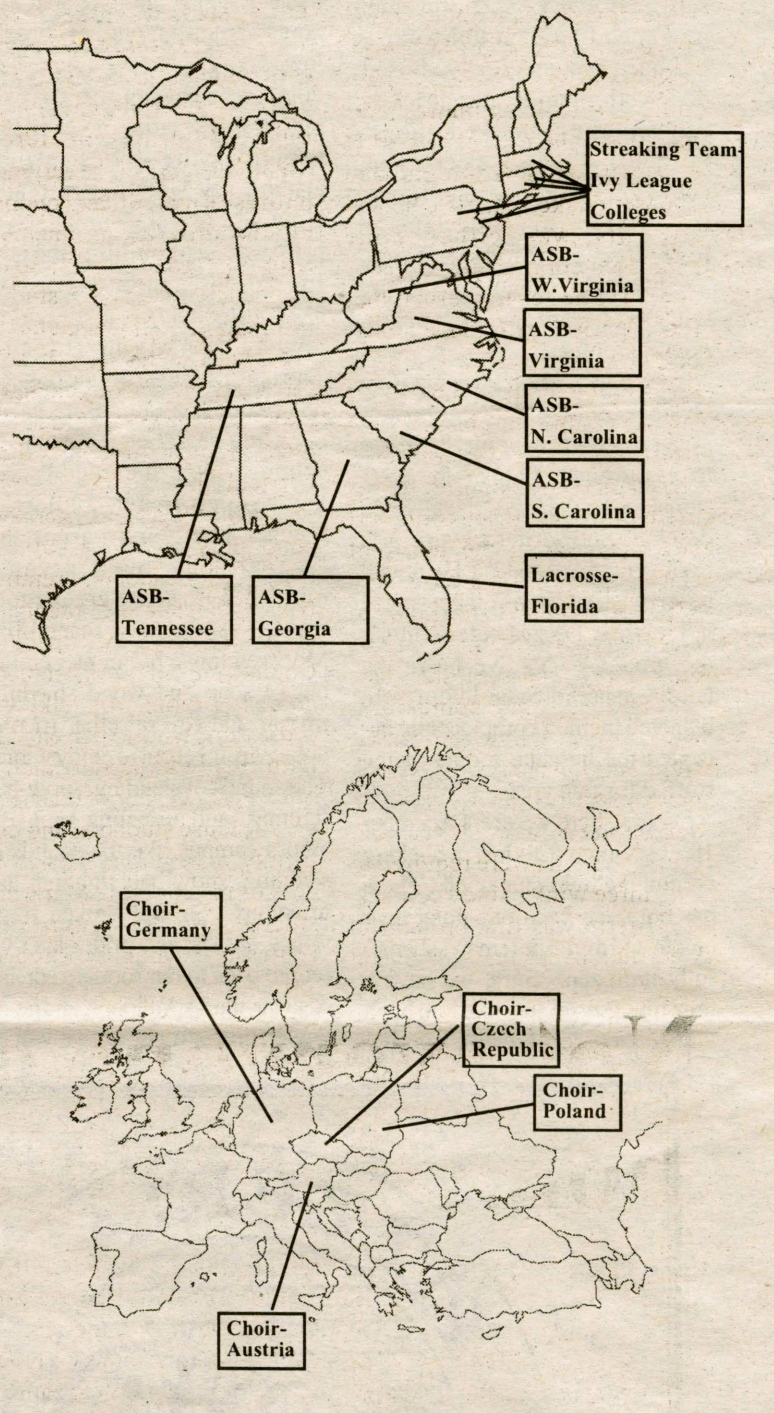
This year, Alternative Spring Break (ASB) will send out six groups to different locations across the southern United States. Traveling by Jitney, groups will go to North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia. The groups fall under three different categories, environmental community service, construction service (like Habitat for Humanity), and outreach services (like soup kitchens and women's shelters). ASB e-board representative and group leader, Chuckie Field '05 noted that ASB was an important experience because "not only do you help other people outside of the Hamilton community but you get the chance to meet and befriend new people from Hamilton."

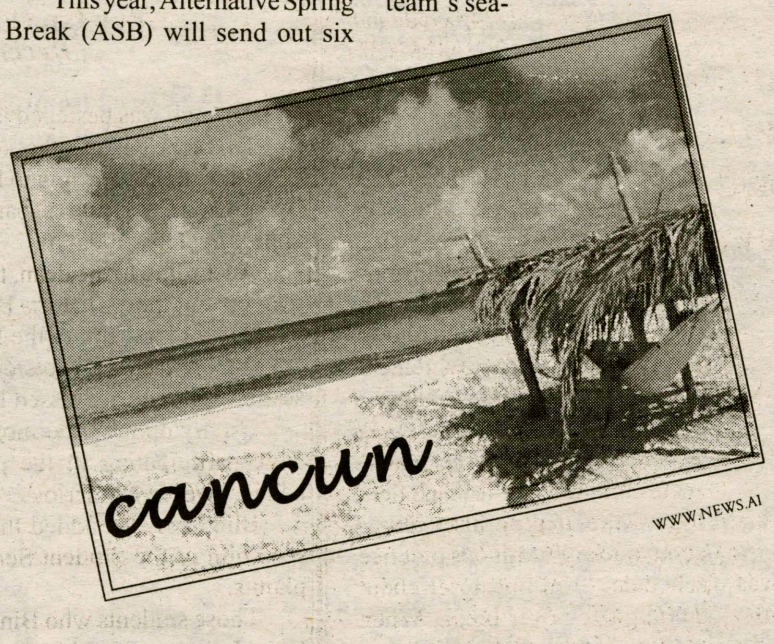
Make your reservation and experience it...even if your experience involves getting rolled up in an oversized burrito to achieve your 15 minutes of fame.

The Hamilton College Women's Lacrosse team will make the trip down to West Palm Beach, Florida for the first week of break. The team will start their break with a round robin of scrimmages. Over the course of the week, they will play three regular season games against Amherst, Connecticut College, and Goucher College. If you're down in the West Palm area, you should definitely check out the team's season debut. Aside from all the practice sessions and games, "it's a real team bonding experience," said senior Danielle Levine '05. Team members will spend their spare time at the beach, shopping, or taking in some movies.

Regardless of your choice of destination, the days of watching spring break on TV have ended. It's time to make your reservation and experience it...even if your experience involves getting rolled up in an oversized burrito to achieve your 15 minutes of fame.

Where in the World...
will Hamilton students go for Spring Break?





Mexico, Florida, and the Bahamas are popular spring break destinations, idolized by exposure on MTV. Hamilton students will frequent these hot spots, as well as some unconventional spring break locations such as the Czech Republic and Austria.

J-Term: Is it worth it?

by Meagan Irwin '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

I am sure many of you have heard of a thing called J-term. I know I have heard about it, and have always contemplated whether it would be worth having. J-term is like a mini-semester. It is a three-week period in January when students can choose to take a single course.

This was either done through a course on campus or abroad. The key to j-term is that it's a period of intense study, one class five days a week for two to three hours a day.

At Hamilton, classes were limited to twenty students, which gave the opportunity for more intimate discussion. If you think about the hours of class a day during J-term, it is pretty equivalent to the hours of class a student normally takes during a regular semester.

The regular semesters, which are now fourteen weeks, were cut down to twelve-week semesters in order to preserve our winter break. Over four years, students were required to take three winter study courses.

J-term was first brought to Kirkland in around 1968 and called Winter Study. After Kirkland was disbanded and the two schools united in 1978, winter study was imposed on both sides. It was introduced as an educational experiment to see if a workload of one course would give students the chance to work at a new level of depth and intensity. Professor Jeremy Medina, Spanish, described J-term as "a magnificent opportunity for different or unconventional academic group projects." It also gave students the chance to take what Professor John O'Neill, English, referred to as "special change of pace courses," courses that were atypical of a liberal arts curriculum.

Winter Term, as J-term was commonly referred to, did not last very long and was removed from the academic calendar in the mid 80's. A Curriculum Commission met and decided to abolish J-term. In talking to professors who experienced J-term, many have said that the main reason J-term disbanded was because students, and even faculty, disregarded the seriousness of the courses. Many considered J-term a mini-break. Professor Douglas Raybeck, Anthropology, believed the "academic value of the experience was brought into question." Hamilton eliminated J-term to relieve the workload for the faculty and also to save some money on additional courses and abroad programs (i.e. three weeks in Madrid). Professor O'Neill said that the "faculty could accomplish more if [they] used the person-power that was used in Winter Term for something else." Thus, Senior Program was created in all departments to effectively use the faculty's energy.

J-term, although not practiced at Hamilton any more, is still popular among other schools. Middlebury is an avid supporter of J-term, along with Cornell, MIT, and Williams. Schools tend to find J-term appealing because, although the class is very concentrated, it is easier to completely devote yourself to one class than to distribute your attention over four classes.

After talking to students around Hamilton, there seems

see ***J-Term,*** *page 12*

Not everyone gets to go home for winter break

by Teresa Fisher '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Winter break: after finals exams in college, those two words represent the sweetest phrase in the English language. Many Hamilton students pack up their belongings and head home for a month of relaxation and detox from their finals-week caffeine addiction.

But, do all Hamilton students sit and watch DVD's or model their apres-ski apparel in the lodge during the break?

Nope. Internatinoal students, senior students, and students who belong to a winter sports team, will spend the month in between semesters in a slightly different manner.

Athletes whose teams play over the winter, such as the hockey, squash and the basketball teams, have to cut their breaks a little short.

Both the men's and women's hockey teams return to campus shortly after Christmas; the women on New Year's day and the men on December 27th. The female players endure double sessions during the weekdays and games on the weekends, that unfortunately, no one else will be on campus to watch. Olivia Vargo, a freshman on the team, thinks that though they have to come back to campus early, it is really helpful to the team because the rest of the student body isn't around to provide any distractions.

"Obviously it would be more enjoyable just to party and relax all vacation, but twenty year-olds still have responsibilities that they must fulfill." - Chris Parkinson '06

When asked what she was doing prior to her return to the ice rink, Vargo said, "I'm going to St. Croix...I hope my amazingly hot tan won't melt the ice!"

Kaitlin Johnson, another freshman player believes it is necessary for the team to come back earlyand practice, although she will have to go to bed early on New Year's Eve in order to drive down from Vermont early the next morning.

"I am very glad that the school lets us stay here over break, because otherwise it would be too hard to jump back into our intensive hockey schedule after a month of no practice."

Jon Peros, a freshman on the men's team, shares similar sentiments to Vargo and Johnson about returning to campus over break. Though it is his first year on the team, he played hockey at boarding school and hasn't had a full winter break in five years. Like the women's team, the men practice twice a day and also spend a lot of time traveling to their games, none of which are home.

During down time John expects to bond with his teammates and enjoy some relaxation. John elaborated on his feelings about hockey's arduous practice schedule, "I'm not upset about coming back over break. When you get into hockey, you understand that the time commitment

see ***Students remain,*** *page 12*

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Winter study poll
December 5, 1975

During the third week in November several members of a Government 116 class conducted a random poll of 75 Hamilton and Kirkland students on the subject of Winter Term. The survey was formulated to answer several questions: Is the Winter Term representative of the students' viewpoints? What are the reactions of the students to the changes made over last year's Winter Study? In what direction should the Winter Term move toward?

Sixty-six percent of all students expressed dissatisfaction with Winter Term. This is a clear indication of student opinion, which surprises no one. Course selections for January were drastically reduced as a result of faculty indecision, and both students and faculty are displeased with the outcome.

Ninety-two percent of the respondents felt that the viewpoints of the students had been inadequately represented on the subject of Winter term, yet less than 30 percent attempted to make their views know to the administration. In the past student input has been lacking but this year's half-baked January terms has provoked many to speak out.

In the direction does the student body feel that Winter Term should head? Ninety percent answered that they would like to see the experimental dimension (i.e. internships) stressed instead of the current academic emphasis. This is a positive recommendation from the students to the Committee on Academic Policy and only the future will tell what importance they give to student opinion on this matter.

Construction to begin on field house complex
December 11, 1976

Hamilton College's Board of Trustees voted last weekend to authorize five million dollars to begin major additions and renovations to Hamilton's athletic facilities, including the construction of a new field house, President J. Martin Carovano announced today.

The project is planned for completion by September 1, 1978.

The renovation and expansion of the athletic facilities are part of Hamilton's four-year, $16 million capital campaign known as "Priorities for Hamilton." The campaign's three major goals are the Chemistry Building, which is underway and expected to be completed by September 1977; an addition to the endowment principle; and renovation and additions to the college's athletic facilities.

The first stage of the athletic project to be completed by September 1977 will be the renovation of the Alumni Gymnasium, which will include the construction of the gymnasium and the Sage Rink. The next stage, which will include the construction of the three new playing fields, three indoor squash courts and two handball courts.

Pub tap closes; students stay
December 1, 1978

The pub was besieged last Tuesday night by 30-40 students who were protesting the conditions of the bar and the early closing hours, according to Dean of Student Affairs, R. Gordam Bringham. The group disbanded only after the dean appeared at approximately 2:00 a.m.

According to the dean, the students refused to obey the 1:00 a.m. closing hour. Efforts by the bartender and later a security guard would not empty the Pub. After closing, another keg was brought in from an outside source. When the dean arrived, several students addressed him with complaints.

"In my opinion, no more than half of the students present were participating in the protest." These students, the dean added, "were very serious."

Bingham also added that none of these students had ever seen him or the Student Services Committee about their complaints.

Those students who Bingham could identify have been sent to the Judiciary Board for not obeying "a legitimate request from the bartender and a security guard."

Shape up and clean up

BY DANIELLE SCLAFANI '08

The dining hall staff works tirelessly to keep the facility clean and spotless. Students, however, are sometimes unappreciative of their efforts.

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

It's Sunday morning and as it often does, Commons Dining Hall looks like a nuclear war zone. Used napkins lay crumpled on the floor and tables; pages from the New York Times and Wall-Street Journal are scattered about; neglected trays and dirty dishes sit on windowsills. And then it happens: the inevitable. BASH! BANG! CLATTER! BOOM! As the conveyor belt begins to move, the mile-high pile of blue cafeteria trays, dirty dishes (many still covered in food), forks, knives, spoons, cups, and napkins begins to teeter and totter and ever so slowly, begin to tumble over. In a mad, frantic dash, every student within a twenty-foot radius runs for cover. "It wasn't me!" they all think to themselves as janitors and Bon Appetit workers begin to clean up the mess that now coats the once-clean floor.

Commons Dining Hall is hardly the cleanest place on campus, however, at times, it does look rather pristine. In fact, in the early morning and before dinnertime one might even describe Commons as spotless. Even though Bon Appetit workers are constantly wheeling their carts around, washing tables, and picking up trays, keeping Commons clean during the day is a losing battle. Only when it is freed from the student stampede does the dining hall regain its dignity.

Sadly, many students at Hamilton certainly know a lot about making a mess, but very little about cleaning up. In fact, Marge, who has worked for Bon Appetit for eleven years believes that about one third of the kids at Hamilton don't care if the tables are clean or not. "Sunday is nothing but a pig hole," she said. "They absolutely don't care [about scrapping plates and picking up after themselves]. If you cared, you'd do it. They think its funny. It's their dining hall. It's their home for four years...It's all about courtesy."

Marge "loves [her] kids" and believes that Hamilton students generally show her a great deal of respect. Marge admits, however, that many staff members do feel disrespected. She explains that oftentimes when they spill something, students don't go and tell anyone, they simply pretend it never happened. The staff works hard to keep the dining hall clean, but students don't realize the implications of their actions on the lives of others. "As a child you should be taught respect and you should understand that [being respectful] is not even a duty but a part of your personal values," said Marge. "Students should treat staff here like their parents."

Cody Westphal '08 commented, "I guess it's pretty gross when people just leave stuff out on the tables, but I think people are pretty respectful. I guess it just doesn't bother me because I'm not the one that has to clean, I don't really think that much about it." He continues, "Rich students can't relate to [janitors and cafeteria workers]. It isn't good to generalize about all rich people but if this were a 'lower income institution' maybe you'd have more students who related to workers." Mike '08 echoes this sentiment, "the 'silver spoon kids' don't [realize the importance of the jobs of janitors and cafeteria workers] but I think they are the minority. In general here at Hamilton, I think students do realize [how important these jobs are]."

Just like Marge, Shane, a maintenance worker for the Kirkland dorm thinks that while the students in the dorm are generally courteous, the biggest problem is that students "don't clean up after themselves." While Shane says he is "very lucky" and has never felt that a student has ever been personally disrespectful to him, he has been in situations where he has felt like "ratting on students": "I cleaned a quad once where there were bottles everywhere and they were all filled with urine. I could've reported these kids, and maybe I should've, but I try to give the respect I get and these were good boys. My job as I see it is to make everything as presentable as I can...and not to make any enemies."

A maintenance worker for North says that while the biggest problem is students' disrespect for one another, the college is also understaffed with janitors. Some have to do double the work and get paid the same amount of money. However, there is a strict hierarchy ladder that makes it very difficult to accommodate change. He adds, "we aren't just robots; we have ideas that can benefit the school." Not only does he believe that more communication is needed between Res Life and the Physical Plant, but he also thinks "people will have more respect [for renovated dorms]... The students have become so accustomed to the mess; they don't have respect for their surroundings."

Shane believes that while Hamilton is a good place to work, "students should be reminded that they are adults and are responsible for at least themselves. You have to live with the consequences of what you do just like an adult and you have to own up to the messes you make...I consider that respect."

Marge said that she "absolutely loves her job" however, "she would love to see kids that go on to do heinous things to work in the dish room and clean tables...You'd see a different side of the world...it would kill you or cure you." Marge adds, "Pick up after yourselves. If everyone would, it would be so much neater...the bottom line is courtesy for other human beings."

Students remain on the Hill for winter break

from ***Students remain,*** *page 11*

comes with the territory. A lot of hockey players either played in prep school or played juniors before coming to college and expect this type of schedule. During the off season, you think about playing so much, and when the time comes, it is worth giving up your break just to get back on the ice."

The Hamilton Squash team is also required to cut their break short for the sake of the sport, but do not have to return to the Hill until the second week in January. "The time spent at campus helps the team to bond and foster a sense of unity," explains junior Chris Parkinson, who spent much of last year's break on the Hill. "It's different with squash because it's an individual sport, but the bonding during break helps transform it into a team effort. It makes players care not only about their own records, but about their team's wins and losses as well."

Another group of students who often do not get to spend their entire break at home are the school's international students. While some do return home, many take trips or stay on campus for part of the vacation. Delia Nita, an international student from Romania, plans to spend her break partially in New York City and partially in Mexico. She feels that it is not worth going all the way home, because she will return there after only one year. The cost of going to see Mexico and New York is comparable to a flight home, and there is not always such a good opportunity to visit these places.

Cristina Gherasimov, a student from Moldova is going to visit California and then afterwards accompany Nita on her trip to Mexico. Because Gherasimov, like Nita, is only going to study at Hamilton for one year, she feels that it is a good idea to get out of Clinton and visit some exciting places.

Other international students, like Ntokozo Xaba '08, from South Africa, will spend much of their break on campus. Xaba is going to spend all four years of college at Hamilton and says that he will spend some of his break visiting a friend, but the majority of the time getting a job on campus because he has noticed that "in the US, making money seems very important."

A third group of Hamilton students who will use the time over break wisely are those who are beginning to search for jobs or internship opportunities. While Parkinson spent last year with the squash team, he will take time during his break this year to fill out applications and have interviews. He thinks that it is important to start the job process early, because, though it may make students feel old, it will pay off later. "Obviously it would be more enjoyable just to party and relax all vacation, but twenty year-olds still have responsibilities that they must fulfill," said Parkinson.

Though he recognizes the importance of preparing early for the future, he is quick not to resign to only concentrating on work over vacation, as he said, "It is really important to plan ahead, work hard, and get good grades, but having fun now and developing the necessary social skills is important in the long run, even if studying will most successfully get you past the first step."

So, while many of us will spend the next month curled up on the couch watching the re-runs we missed during first semester, there is a contingency of the school who will seize opportunities, either to improve their athletic skills and bond with their teammates, travel in US before they return to the foreign countries in which they live or plan for the future. Maybe their motivation will motivate us to get off the couch and take advantage of a month without tests , homework and deadlines. Then again, maybe not...

J-Term at Hamiton: "Never say never"

from ***J-Term,*** *page 11*

to be quite a split between those in favor of and against bringing back J-term. Will Reid, a freshman, is opposed to J-term, "I don't like the idea of taking just one class for an entire month. I think I'd get bored." Another first year, Emily Tang, said, "I don't like it because it forces us to take one class too intensely."

Greer Mahoney, a senior, has a different opinion: "It would be good to put all of your time and effort into one class. You wouldn't slack off because you only have one course to concentrate on." I think J-term definitely has its pluses in addition to the negatives. J-term would give us a new level of intellectual study, the opportunity to really focus our attention on something we're really interested in. At the same time, we are only learning one new subject, and there is definitely the potential to lose interest. Not to mention, the whole purpose of jJ-term would be defeated if people did not take it seriously.

As to whether there is a possibility of J-term making a comeback, Professor Raybeck puts it perfectly: "Never say never."

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Business & Economics

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This week: mergers

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

Have you ever met someone who brings out the better man (or woman) in you? It's really a special thing when two people can come together and both be better off because of each other. Sometimes, one person swoops down and saves another from certain disaster. I have a friend who was essentially an alcoholic, that is, until he met a certain young lady. Something about her turned him around, and now he is engaged, has a well-paying job and is happy as can be. Or, take Bill and Hillary Clinton, two political powerhouses whose careers are both better off because of each other.

On the other hand, we all have a friend who we know would be better off if he or she could just dump their significant other, or even find a new one. I'm talking about the guy whose girlfriend calls to nag him when she finally lets him go out with his friends for a night, or the nice girl whose jealous boyfriend makes her cry by wrongly accusing her of cheating. In any event, sometimes people are just better off alone or with someone else. The same rings true in the world of business, and it is all taken care of by mergers and acquisitions.

Technically speaking, a merger is the unification of two or more companies, but usually only two. The term, "merger," implies a unification which has been agreed upon by all parties involved. Some mergers, called consolidation mergers, occur as the result of two firms joining together to form a completely separate firm. This happened recently when automobile makers Daimler-Benz and Chrysler came together to form Daimler-Chrysler. Stockholders of either Daimler-Benz or Chrysler were issued new stock in Daimler-Chrysler, rendering their shares in the former companies worthless.

Mergers can also take place in the form of a friendly purchase. These are rightfully named purchase mergers. If both firms agree to the unification, the larger company can purchase the smaller outright, thus swallowing all of its assets and liabilities. Such a merger took place last month when retail giant Kmart purchased Sears. The two chains were being stripped of their customers by rising stars like Wal-Mart and Target. Top executives from both Kmart and Sears agreed that they would be better off fighting new retailers together, rather than apart. Kmart subsequently purchased Sears, thus combining the positives of both firms in an effort to win back customers from emerging retail chains.

Five main types of mergers exist. Horizontal mergers are the unification of two firms, such as Kmart and Sears, which are in the same industry and in direct competition with each other for business. Two firms will merge horizontally if they want to increase their market share, such as Kmart and Sears wish to do.

Firms and their suppliers merge in what is called a vertical merger. If an automobile producer wanted to decrease its costs over the long term, they may wish to purchase a steel company. This way, the new firm would not have to buy steel from an outside source, and could possibly sell excess steel at a profit.

Though conceptually attractive, this type of business practice is exactly what led to some of the broadest business reforms in history. At the turn of the century, one steel producer bought an entire rail line. For the firm, the cost of shipping their steel decreased significantly. To further increase their market share, the firm charged other steel suppliers exorbitant amounts to ship their steel. To deal with the high shipping costs, the other firms had raise their prices and lost customers to the company which owned the rail line. Eventually, Teddy Roosevelt and his Trust Busters made this type of manipulative business practice illegal.

Daimler-Benz and Chrysler entered into a market extension merger. Market extension mergers are unifications of two firms which sell the same product, but in different markets. Chrysler sold middle-cost vehicles mainly in the United States, while Daimler-Benz produces high-end automobiles sold in the United States and abroad. Chrysler was not getting a share of the high-end or international markets, and pricey Daimler-Benz products were not readily available to average consumers. By merging, the firms increased their stake in the global automobile market.

Hewlett-Packard and Compaq came together recently in what is called a product extension merger. Two firms whose products are different but linked may wish to merge to gain the advantage of each other's sales. Hewlett-Packard made computer accessories such as printers while Compaq focused on the desktop and laptop computer market. The new firm, still known as Hewlett Packard, now has the ability to offer printers and every other imaginable accessory along with a desktop or laptop computer.

Look up conglomerate in any dictionary or thesaurus, and you will find the words, "cluster, mass, assorted, heterogeneous," and so on. A conglomerate merger reflects its definition perfectly. It is a unification of firms which have essentially nothing in common, besides the desire to make a profit. Conglomerates tend to be the world's largest firms and operate much like the United States Government. Similar to senators and representatives, each business division of a conglomerate has its own financial and managing officers. Keeping everyone in line is the president or CEO of the entire operation. Like a coach, the CEO's hands do not get dirty during the game, but he or she calls the plays. If one of the divisions is unsuccessful, the CEO will hopefully set it straight, but if the entire conglomerate is underperforming, the CEO is sent to the guillotine.

Though it has not made any mergers recently, General Electric is one of the world's largest conglomerate corporations. General Electric owns the NBC media corporation, makes toaster ovens and virtually every other electrical appliance, offers a full range of financial and healthcare services, and once upon a time manufactured detonation devices for military explosives.

Conglomerates also benefit from their diversification. If one division is not performing well, it can be temporarily sustained by other divisions, which are hopefully operating at a profit.

The main idea behind all mergers is that the the resulting firm will be more profitable than the two previous firms. The new firm will be able to cut costs in a variety of ways. In the same way large families save on bulk purchases by shopping at Sam's Club or Costco, larger firms can save on larger purchases. Though not good for employees, mergers usually mean lay offs for workers, as the new firm keeps only the best of the previous two firms.

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Financial market report: 12/1 - 12/8

by David Kelland '05
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS COLUMNIST

After making a fresh 39-week high of 1197 last Friday, the S&P 500 sold off slightly this week to close on Thursday, December 9 at 1189. The chip sector led the declines, with the Philadelphia Semiconductor Index (SOX) touching a low of 414 this Thursday. Negative outlooks from Texas Instruments, Altera and Xilinx catalyzed the chip sector selling.

The reports fueled investor concerns that bloated inventories and lower than expected sales will reduce fourth quarter profits. The selling lost steam on yesterday, however, when National Semiconductor reported a better than expected profit and the SOX rallied 11 points from its midday low to close at 425.

East Asian exporters and American consumers received some minimal relief this week as the US Dollar rallied on an improved growth outlook for the United States. The situation is reminiscent of Russia's Kerensky offensive in World War I.

The fundamentals indicate that this rally in the dollar is doomed to fail. Traders may have reverted to "intervention psychology" mode, fearing that the Bank of Japan will be buying dollars when they are lower than 102 Yen. The New York Board of Trade's Dollar Index has fallen 8.2 percent since mid-October.

Gold futures broke sharply on the dollar appreciation, falling almost $15 per ounce on Wednesday, December 8. The market found support at the January and March highs on Thursday, December 9, leaving the strong technical posture of gold mostly intact.

The benchmark NYMEX light sweet crude contract closed 48 cents higher yesterday to rest at $42.53 per barrel.

The US Dollar stands at ¥104.6 and the Euro is at $1.331. On the first of this month the British Pound reached its highest level versus the dollar since George Soros's famous trade in 1992. A British Pound now costs $1.925.

The US Treasury executed its monthly 10-year Treasury note auction on Thursday. Treasury auctions are open to major financial institutions that have "primary dealer" status. These institutions submit competitive and noncompetitive bids for the Treasuries. Noncompetitive bids are filled at the dollar-weighted average price for the auction and competitive bids are filled depending on their price. The primary dealers want to buy the securities at the lowest price and highest yield possible. If a primary dealer submits a bid that is deemed too low, the Treasury has no obligation to fill the bid. Since the dealers are often bidding for their clients, the dealer may then need to go into the secondary market and buy those securities for the client, which can be difficult. Overseas bids for the auction were notably weak, but Treasuries eventually recovered to close with only small losses. The bid-to-cover ratio for the auction was 2.68, which normally indicates a well-subscribed auction. However, since the auction was only for $9 billion of notes, the number is not surprising. Although last month's $14 billion auction had a bid-to-cover ratio of only 2.05, the total value of the bids was greater.

Over the past five days, traders have been buying US Treasuries with both hands, pushing the 30-year bond yield, which stood at 5.05 percent last week, to 4.83 percent. The ten-year note and five-year note are yielding 4.17 percent and 3.54 percent respectively.

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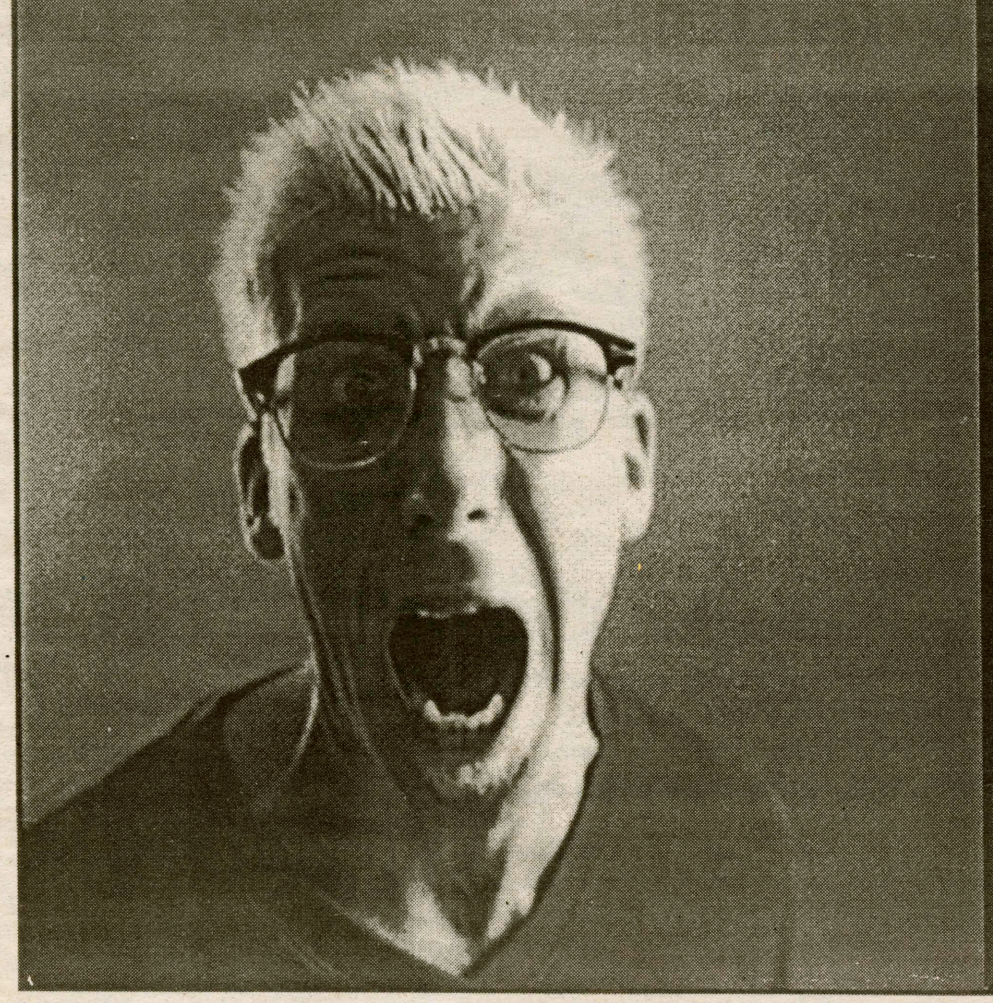

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Arts & Entertainment

The Chronicles of Zinn: driving in New York City is hell

by Zachary Zinn '05
A&E COLUMNIST

Having related my experiences with New York's optimum mode of transportation, the subway, I will take the opportunity this week to discuss the opposite end of the spectrum: driving in the city. This was something I hoped never to have to experience, but fate thrust into my hands the keys of a rented Plymouth Voyager used for delivering props on the television show I work on, Nickelodeon's *U-Pick Live*. My mission was to return the van from the studio at 42nd and 7th Avenue Times Square to the rental place just a few blocks away at 40th and 10th Avenue.

In any other city in the world, this would be a simple, straightforward task. In the heart of Manhattan, however, for someone who has never driven in the city, this almost certainly meant a grizzly and untimely demise. I quickly discovered that aside from actually parking on top of a pedestrian without either honking or shaking your fist first, everything was fair game in terms of legal driving procedures. This total lawlessness came in handy during navigation, for every street is designed to be one-way in the opposite direction of your destination from any point in the city.

This backwards design eventually got the best of me, however, as a friendly traffic cop kindly directed me away from the lane that led to the rental place and into one which sharply curved and spiraled downwards into the most sinister circle of Hell, also known as the Lincoln Tunnel during rush hour. Two hours, countless profanities, four near death experiences, and quite possibly the most illegal u-turn in automotive history later, I sputtered the van into the rental place, a beaten and deeply shaken man. Needless to say, I took the subway back.

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Ah, a New York City traffic jam.You know, I've heard that if you concentrate hard enough, you can almost smell the profanity. Have a good trip home New Yorkers!

Film Fraseology

by Andrew Whelan '08 and the Film Production Guild
A&E COLUMNIST

Much like our President, filmmakers love to make up words. Maybe it is just the human urge to catalog minutiae, or something far more sinister. Take gaffer tape for example. Gaffer tape is praised in the industry as being invaluable. There are simply no limits to its uses! Cover up windows! Tape down those loose cords! So, where can you get some of this magical gaffer tape? Just about anywhere: it's black duct tape. Of course, while some fictitious words, such as supercalifragilistic-expialidocious, are useful, most of them are just overrated "misunderestimated"s. One of the clever, logical words to be made up on a movie-set remains a common film term since its inception over forty years ago. That word is today's film frase: Alfred Hitchcock's MacGuffin.

Film Frase of the Week: MacGuffin

George W. Bush's Use of a Film Frase of the Day of the Day: "Few can misunderestimate the effeetiveness of Rosebud as a MacGuffin in *Citizen Kane*"

Unfortunately, the MacGuffin is not a delicious breakfast entrée at Mcdonalds. As a matter of fact, it is not any type of Mc or guffin. A MacGuffin is any device that is used as an artificial means to advance the plot of a film. First coined by Alfred Hitchcock, it has since become an accepted bit of vocabulary that many use to help break down the elements of a plot. Some famous MacGuffins include the golden, glowing briefcase in *Pulp Fiction*, the guns in *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, or the Necronomicon in the *Evil Dead* trilogy. Look carefully and it is easy to find MacGuffins driving the plots of many modern movies.

Information found in http://www.cinepad.com/filmnoir/bait.htm article entitled "The Bait."

Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry badass, everyone!

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

Happy Almost-Done-With-First-Semester! We've seen all sorts of badassness, from *Dawn of the Dead* to *Desperado*, from *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* to...*Desperado*. But now is the time to reflect, to think about this semester and our fellow people. After all, this is the season to celebrate peace and love, which it seems we need more than ever these days. Besides, is there anything more badass than peace and love? Yes. Dinosaurs eating people is way more badass. But after that, there is nothing more badass than peace and love. And so, on that note, I'll be writing about some of my favorite, most badassly peaceful and loving holiday specials. Ok, they're Christmas specials. But they're about the presents, peace and love aspect, not the Christ part, so they're fun for everyone.

For some reason Christmas specials have a monopoly on stop-motion, puppet technology. At least that's what I think it is. You know what I'm talking about, whatever it is that they used to make *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, a tale of acceptance and following your dreams, even if your dream is to be a dentist, which is totally lame. Luckily, the story is definitively not totally lame. Also, Hermey the Elf wants to be a dentist to help people, not because he's a sadist, like most dentists, so he gets props for that.

The story of *Rudolph* is simple enough. For whatever reason, Rudolph is born with a red nose, which means that he will be made fun of by the other young reindeer. His parents naming him "Rudolph" doesn't exactly help either. But Rudolph is a plucky young reindeer, albeit a bored one who is not allowed t o play in any reindeer games (except "Operation," when he is the board) and he wants to lead Santa's sleigh. But, like so many young reindeer, Rudolph's dreams are shattered by reality and he runs away, eventually metting the aforementioned Hermey the Elf, aspiring D.D.S. The two go on an adventure, finally ending up at one of my favorite fake places ever: The Island of Misfit Toys. This is the place where all of the toys that children don't want go. There's a bird in a fishbowl, a truck with square wheels and a Charlie in the Box (I think it's a Charlie in the Box... you get my point). Then there's the Abominable Snowmonster and Yukon Cornelius, two more misfits. But at the end, everyone is accepted.

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Christmas shows are a dime a dozen;
They can be very tacky and crass.
But *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?
That's one thing, my friends: badass.

See, that's the point of the special: accept people for who they are, even if they're different. You don't need to believe in Jesus to accept people. In fact... no, I won't mention that many people who believe in Jesus are actually very much not accepting. But you'll see my point about not having to be Christian real soon. (Like the next paragraph).

My favorite Christmas special of all time, arguably the best Christmas special, the one with the best message, was written by a Jew. Yup, Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel's *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* is so beautifully badass that I'm tearing up just thinking about it. Well, not really, but it's still great. I sincerely hope that everyone reading this has seen this special. I'm not sure when I first saw the show, but since then I've probably seen it a solid hundred times. Until my computer decided to freak out and erase itself, I had the audio of the show downloaded. What makes this so good (and so much better than the Jim Carrey movie) is the loyalty to the original. Aside from the song, "You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch," every word in the show is from Seuss's original book. Whoever made the special (a fact I am not bothering to look up) was smart enough to realize that you don't mess with genius, something that all too many story adapters do not realize. And the story that they are sticking with is a very touching one. I mean, badass. It's badass.

The Grinch (a word that Seuss made up in, I would argue, a Shakespearean manner, regardless of what you say, Mike Butler '06) loves The Who, but hates the Whos, because they make so much noise

*see **'Tis the season**, page 17*

Mithat's Gaming Corner presents: *Pirates!*

"I personally approve of this game review." - Mithat

By Chris Takacs '05
SENIOR EDITOR

Pirate games are few and far between, and so the release of *Sid Meier's Pirates!* is, in many ways, a breath of fresh air. With the disastrously glitch-filled *Pirates of the Caribbean* virtually unplayable, gamers have had to wait years for a new swashbuckling adventure to whet their scurvy whistle. After having created the greatest pirate game of all time (the original *Pirates!*) in 1987, Sid Meier has returned to the drawing table, bringing the creative talents for strategy and simulation games to an all-too-untouched genre of adventure gaming. *Pirates!* satisfies all audiences, and despite some shortcomings, it is easily the best game of its genre available.

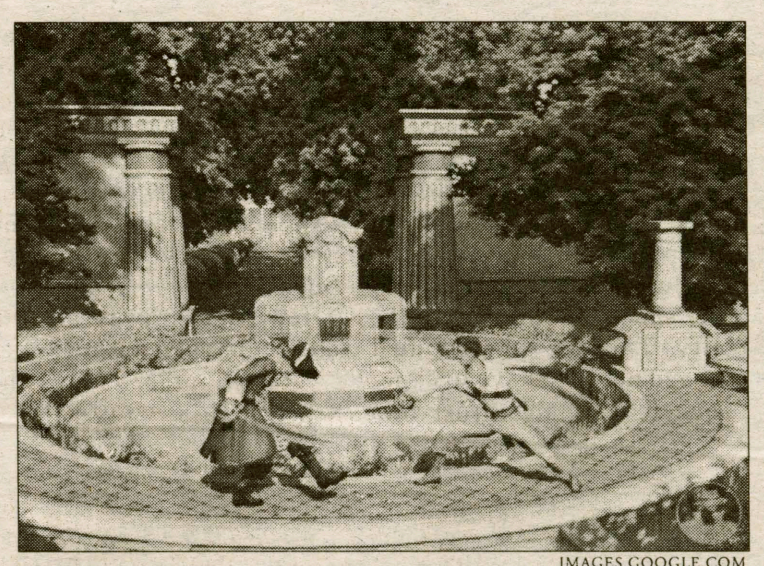
Pirates! begins with an atypical tale of revenge: as a young boy in Europe, you see your family captured and ruined by an evil pirate, and you spend the rest of you life trying to find the individual members of your family and wreak vengeance on your arch-enemy. As *Pirates!* is a completely open-ended game, you don't have to do this, but the rewards for reuniting your family can be significant. You are never tied to the storyline, which is nice, but what plot there is, is unsatisfyingly short and clichéd.

In terms of gameplay, *Pirates!* is more a collection of over a dozen mini-games collected into one and united loosely by a storyline. To be sure, you command your ship on the high seas, but you can also visit towns, sword-fight with villains, board ships, plunder colonies, trade goods between outposts, discover lost cities, dig for treasure, lead your men into land battles, and, of course, woo governors' daughters.

The developers have designed *Pirates!* to seamlessly transition between these parts of the game (loading times are virtually instantaneous), and the game's open-endedness means that you can focus entirely on one of the types of quests: becoming the best swordsman in the Caribbean, finding all the hidden pirate treasure, or developing a massive fleet of ships.

While the game's variety is entertaining, it fundamentally lacks the depth of a fast-paced adventure game. Within a few hours, gamers can easily master most of the game's basics, and once they have, *Pirates!* dissolves into repetitive button-mashing. The most challenging part of the game – searching for the lost cities – is only challenging because it is so immensely boring. Had *Pirates!* amazing graphics, this might have not been such a problem. The visual quality and design of the game is, sadly, underwhelming.

Pirates! ultimately disappoints. It is a wonderful game, to be sure – well-designed, colorful, and entertaining-but only hardcore pirate fans will be willing, months down the road, to come back to it. The average gamer will find a great deal of content and playability, but only for a short time. After playing games like *Civilization 3*, fans expected Sid Meier and Firaxis to have created a game that, in four years, will be as playable as it is today. Fans will be lucky if four months from now they will want to pick up their rusty sabers and swashbuckle.



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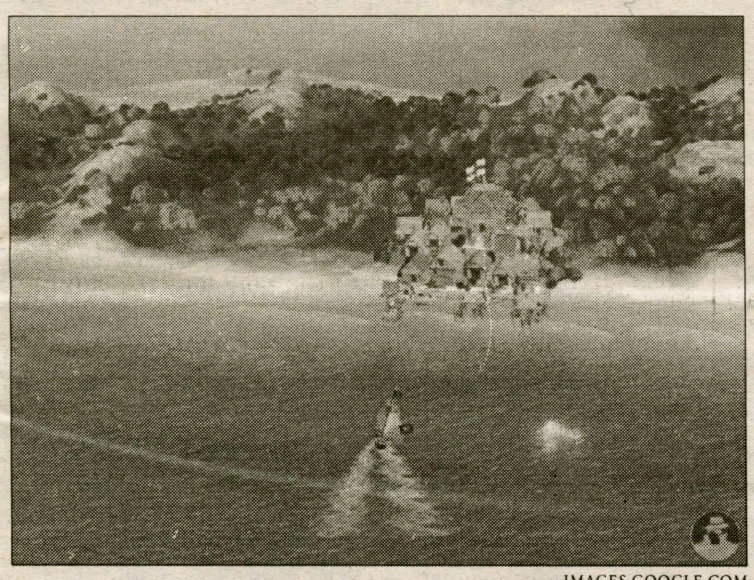
This is a perfect example of how poor annunciation can lead to violence. All the guy on the left said was "You were born on a pirate ship," and suddenly he's dodging sword thrusts. If only he could speak better.



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A pirate ship prepares to ransack and pillage an unsuspecting island colony. Can you guess what Caribbean island it is? That's right: Arrrruba.

Avast, ye scurvy dogs! Sid Meier's *Pirates!* gets 8.3 peg-legs out of 10. Yarrr.

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CATHERINE ZETA-JONES & MATT DAMON DTS
OCEAN'S TWELVE
●12:20●1:40●3:00▲4:20 STADIUM SEATING
▲5:40-7:00-8:20-9:40 ON 2 SCREENS PG-13

BLADE: TRINITY WESLEY SNIPES
●12:00●2:25▲4:50-7:20-9:50 DTS R

DISNEY'S NATIONAL TREASURE
●1:45▲4:25-7:10-9:45 #1 MOVIE DTS PG

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS PG
●12:20●2:35▲4:45-7:05-9:10 TIM ALLEN

THE POLAR EXPRESS TOM HANKS
●12:05●2:15▲4:30-6:50-8:50 G

DISNEY'S THE INCREDIBLES
●1:20▲3:55-6:30-9:00 PG

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE
●1:00●3:00▲5:00-7:00 PG

ALEXANDER ●1:05▲4:35-8:00 R

BRIDGET JONES 2 8:55 R

W/COLLEGE ID $5 ▲TWILITES NITELY $4.50
●MATINEES SAT-SUN-WED $4.50

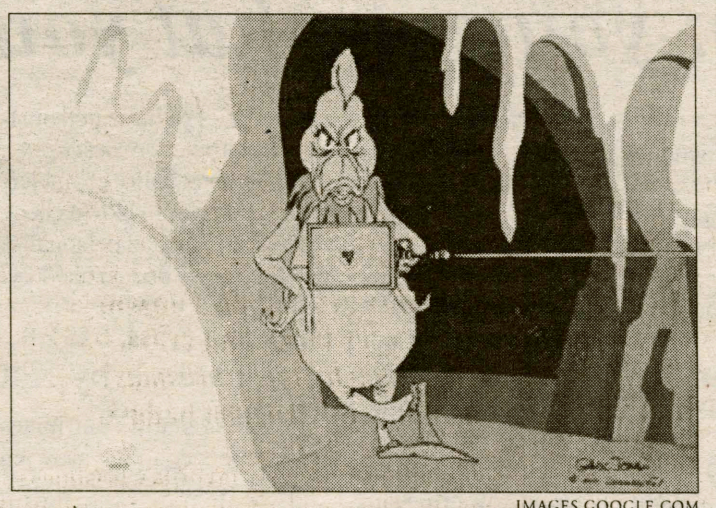
'Tis the season to be badass

continued from ***Badass****, page 16*

on Christmas. How will he stop them? Simple, he'll steal their stuff. Yes, everything from the flabdabblers to the delicious-sounding roast beast is stolen during his Christmas Eve robbery spree. How do the Whos cope with this? By singing! And, while they aren't singing "Baba O'Reilly," the fact that they don't need *things* to be happy moves the Grinch to give them all their stuff back. His heart grows three sizes and he even carves the roast beast. Just try to tell me that isn't badass. Seuss, even though he isn't Christian, grasps the true meaning of Christmas way better than the vast majority of Christians, than most people, in fact. This is from a guy who had rocks thrown at him for being Jewish when he was a kid. Anyone else think that Saint Seuss has a nice ring to it?

In the end, it all comes down to one thing, which the Grinch finally comes to understand: "Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

I hope that we can all keep these messages in mind, both this month and throughout the year. Whatever your beliefs, it's a good message. Have an awesome break, everyone. Peace, love and badass.



IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

**Why is the Grinch so bitter?
Well, his heart is two sizes too small.
But the real reason is, he just spent six hours
Looking for a place to park at the mall.**

The Arts and Entertainment editors would like to wish everyone a very happy season and a most rocking break. Thank you for reading this semester and we hope you'll keep reading next semester.

And hey! You know what we'd like for a present? You! As writers!

Email wrothe or
tmudie@hamilton.edu

Science & Technology

Drug regulation dispute

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

A recently published article in *The Spectator* cited the recall of drugs like Vioxx and Bextra, pain relievers whose side effects have led to significant cardiovascular risks to the American population. Although the Food and Drug Administration may not be a typical article for Science and Technology sections of a newspaper, the aftermath of Vioxx has caused huge disturbances within the FDA and the public's trust in regulatory agencies. For that reason, the effects of scientific research and proper disclosure deserve to be noted here.

According to a statement made by associate director for science and medicine within the Office of Drug Safety, David Graham, regarding his choice to pursue a career in public health at the FDA, "At the time, there seemed to be the possibility that you could have an effect that would benefit patients to a greater extent than at any university."

Now caught up in the midst of a congressional investigation of the true efficacy of our nation's foremost protector of the public against unsafe medications, it seems the benefits of public health regulations are questionable. In fact, when Graham was called before Congress a month ago, he explained that the difficulties involved in safe drug regulation are "immense in scope." As human beings who become sick, he continued, our society is "virtually defenseless" against unsafe drugs becoming available to consumers.

According to the deputy director of the Office of New Drugs, Sandra Kweder, the reason that the high risk to Vioxx consumers was not released to the public earlier was a lack of force on the part of the FDA to require Merck include a warning label on its packaging to consumers. And even when warning labels were finally added in 2002 (problems first came to light around 1999), the warning wasn't boxed in black as serious warnings to customers usually are.

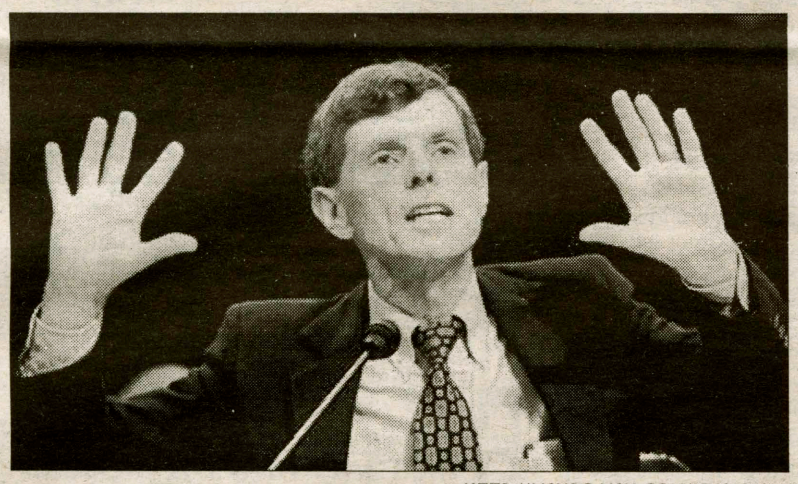
Graham told the Senate during his hearing that "Vioxx is a terrible and profound regulatory failure," and cited problems within the federal agency he believes "will make future Vioxxes inevitable." Much of the problem is contained within the split responsibility of the FDA to act as promoter and regulator of medications. A lack of authority over the major drug companies appears to have arisen which will need to be addressed in order for proper scientific research to be heard and published for the American community.

Senator Charles Grassley, a Republican from Iowa, intends to introduce legislation at the first meeting of the new Congress on January that would create a drug safety office independent of the FDA. This new office would be responsible for, among other things, the regulation of safety monitoring, labeling changes, post-market testing. The concept of a drug safety agency separate from the FDA was supported by the Journal of the American Medical Association in a statement this month.

On the other hand, Kweder feels that the addition of a new drug safety office is unnecessary. "I don't think there is a conflict of interest she told US News, "We thrive on disagreements."

But many scientists feel as though a separate agency has been long overdue and after the problems with Vioxx and Bextra, the public knowledge of internal regulatory difficulties will give enough momentum to Senator Grassley's proposal.

With FDA support, Graham began a three-year study of 1.4 million Kaiser Permanente patients in California, completed just before the September Vioxx scandal. The study, which demonstrate a very high cardiovascular risk to Vioxx patients, was meant to be published in the esteemed medical journal, the *Lancet*. But according to reports which became public a week ago, FDA officials contacted the editor of *Lancet* to complain that Graham's study lacked "basic data integrity." Although the *Lancet* still intended to publish the article, Graham chose to withdraw his submission, now saying that he was "threatened with punitive action. The article was censored."



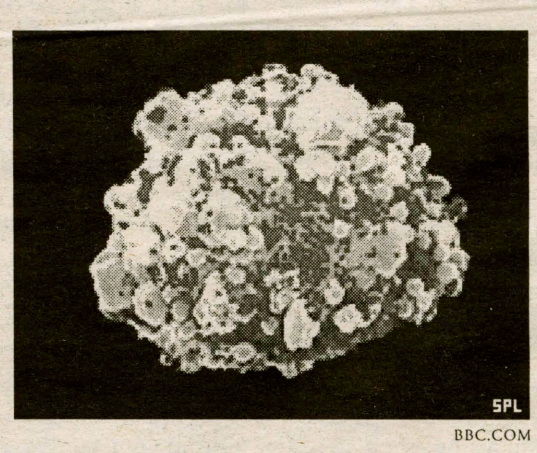
HTTP://MSNBC.MSN.COM/ID/6520630/

David Graham at his Senate hearing a month ago.

Crucial anti-HIV genes isolated

by Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Recent scientific research has identified the genes crucial to the immune system's fight against the worldwide epidemic HIV. In the future, scientists hope that this research will aid in the development of an HIV vaccine, and additionally, this work explains why some HIV infected people express symptoms immediately while others can remain symptom free for years. This study was recently published in Nature, and was the result of a project combining the efforts of researchers at Oxford, KwaZulu and Harvard.



BBC.COM

The HIV virus is one of the world's most infectious diseases.

The HIV virus and the human immune system are mutually evolving. Many experts have termed this an "evolutionary arms race." The virus rapidly adapts, by genetic mutations, to circumvent the immune defense system. Ever on the counterattack, the immune system is rapidly evolving as weaker immune sustems, which are less effective at combating the HIV infection, are wiped out while stronger systems survive at a higher rate.

Usually, the process of mutual adaptation requires thousands of years. On the contrary in the case of HIV, however, the latest research indicates that both the immune system and the virus are evolving at a rapid rate.

Human leukocyte antigens (HLA) are molecules that both indicate and initiate the destruction by the immune system of cells that have been infected with HIV. There are three main types of HLA, types A, B and C, and there are additional subtypes under these categories. Researchers found that type B molecules are the strongest gene type of all three because they do the best job of identifying and destroying infected cells. Progression of the infection hinges upon which subtype of B the individual has. Those individuals with stronger B types developed HIV symptoms the slowest.

HIV-positive women from clinics in Durban, South Africa, were the primary source of data. In addition to determining that women with the B genes were more likely to survive, researchers found that in this case the women were also less likely to pass the HIV infection to their children. It should be noted that HIV is strongly battling against the B genes by changing very fast.

The lead researcher of the study, Dr. Philip Goulder said, "We have known for sometime that HLA-B molecules are evolving more rapidly than other tpes, but it has been unclear why this is happening. . . The findings will help in understanding precisely how the immune system can succeed or fail against HIV, a prerequisite for a rational approach towards the design of an HIV vaccine."

Studies show: you eat what you are

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

In a recent study published bya researcher at Smell and Taste Treatnent and Research Foundation in Chicago, Alan Hirsch, MD, you really are what you eat. His new book publishes his studies on the eating behavoir of different personalities. Shown below are the six different junk foods he correlated with personal character:

-Potato chips: "Potato chip lovers are successful, high achievers who enjoy the rewards and trimmings of their success-both in business and in family life."

-Tortilla chips: "Perfectionists in regards to their own actions and to the community at large, people who crave tortilla chips are humanitarians who are often distressed by the inequities and injustices of society."

-Snack crackers: "Contemplative and thoughtful, people who prefer snack crackers base their decisions on logic rather than emotions."

-Pretzels: "Lively and energetic, pretzel fans seek novelty and thrive in the world of abstract concepts. They often lose interest in mundane, day-to-day routines."

-Cheese curls: "Formal, conscientious and always proper, the cheese curl lover can be described with one word-integrity. They will always maintain moral high ground with their family, work and romantic partners."

-Meat snacks: "Gregarious and social, those who reach for a savory bag of pork rinds or crave beef jerky and other meat snacks are often the life of the party. They are loyal and true friends who can always be trusted."

This study was undertaken on behalf of the Snack Food Association and National Potato Promotion Board. Look for negative characteristics of these personality types within more descriptive studies on personality characteristics. If you would like to check your own snack food personality type, go to news.bbc.co.uk/ 1/hi/ health/4075615.stm or type "flavour and personality test" into any search engine. Whatever you may think of this test, it presents an interesting case for the power of taste.

Fats: a short article by Kat Lexa '05

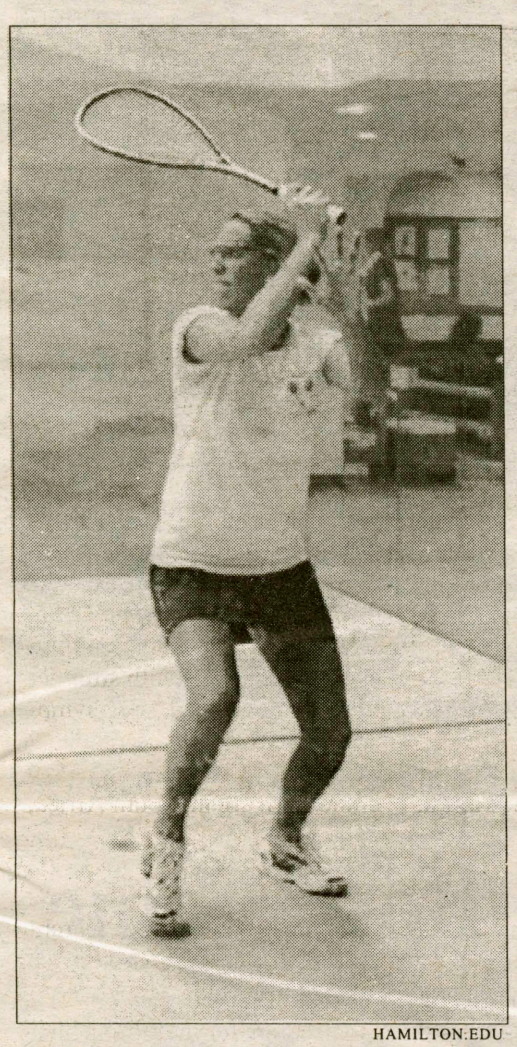
A new study contributes more evidence to the growing body of research suggesting a limited consumption of saturated fats. Research shows that these fats lead to a reduced ability to eliminate the destructive plaque cassociated with Alzheimer's.

UCLA researchers working with mice demonstrated that a low-fat diet rich in omega-3-fatty acids produces more of a protein that can help eliminate plaque on the brain caused by certain peptides.

Squash teams nationally ranked

by Michael Osborne '05
SPORTS EDITOR

While other teams on the Hill are trying to find their games early in the winter season, two teams have hit the courts running. The men's and women's squash teamsare both ranked in the top twenty nationally and both are sporting impressive win streaks.



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Casey Cook '07had two victories last weekend to help the Continentals.

The men's team, currently ranked number twenty in the country, is riding a two game win streak after defeating Wesleyan and Tufts this past weekend. The wins allowed the team to move up from number 25 to number 20 in the latest poll released by the College Squash Association. The team defeated Tufts 6-3 and defeated Wesleyan 7-2. The Tufts victory was marked by wins by Duncan Cameron '05, Chad Carta '06, Nakul Patel '05, Andrew Small '08, Suleman Khoja '08, and Andrew Brooks '06. In the Wesleyan match, these six made it a perfect weekend for themselves in addition to John Frazier '06, who also picked up a victory accounting for the 7-2 final score. The men have also defeated St. Lawrence, Vassar, and the University of Rochester this season. Their lone defeat came at the hands of Hobart. The men also came in second at the Liberty League Championships, which were held on Novermber 20 and 21. The men will look to continue to climb up the ranks when they participate in the Yale Invitational on January 15 and 16.

As for the women, the team started out slow, but in recent weeks their play has improved and so has their record. Due to their strong performance last weekend in wins over Smith College and Connecticut College, the team is currently ranked 19th in the country by the College Squash Association. The team is currently riding a three game win streak, and has been led by Casey Cook '07, Sarah Reinhoff '06, Lindsay Walsh '07, and Callen Sterling '06. Due to her play, Walsh was named the Liberty League co-Performer of the Week this week. Betsy McDermott '08 was named the Liberty League's co-Rookie of the Week for her fine play this past weekend. The team will look to continue to improve and climb the rankings when they participate in the Amherst Invitational on January 14-16.

The men's and women's squash teams are both ranked nationally and both are sporting impressive win streaks.

Unfortunately, fans will need to take to the road in order to watch these teams play, as our squash courts here on the Hill are not regulation size. Therefore, get in your cars or whatever mode of transportation you have, and come to the squash matches as these two teams will look to continue to rise up the national rankings.

Men's swimming breaks records

by Katie Childs '08
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

"Hosting the meet is an amazing deal," said coach T.J. Davis, head coach of the Men's and Women's swimming and diving teams. Hamilton hosted the Liberty League Championships on December 3-4, 2004. Eight coed teams and one women's team were in attendance, bringing over 300 swimmers to the Hill to compete.

"Our main objective is to provide a great racing facility," said Davis. "A lot of records were broken and that is a good indication that the meet was really competitive."

Todd Johnson '08, co-captain Tae Chung '05, Andrew Fink '05, and Andrew Saunders '05 contributed to the 200-yard medley victory, setting a Liberty League record. The team recorded a 1:36.50 minute finish, beating the 2002 Union record by two seconds.

The 400-yard medley team broke the Liberty League record as well, with a time of 3:34.25 minutes. Johnson, Chung, Fink, and Aran Lawrence '05 contributed to the win, allowing the Hamilton team to smash the previous record by three seconds.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team composed of Saunders, Chung, Fink, and Lawrence, broke the Liberty League record for that event. The relay team placed first in the event with a time of 1:26.05 minutes, besting the record by one-tenth of a second.

Hamilton's 400-yard freestyle relay team placed first with a time of 3:12.10 minutes. The relay team of Saunders, Christian Warner '07, Fink, and Lawrence, narrowly missed breaking the Liberty League record in this event, which stands at 3:11.11 minutes.

Individually, the Men's team was also successful. Lawrence won the 50-yard freestyle competition, finishing the event in 21.31 seconds.

Diver Mike Salmon '06 placed first in the 3-meter diving with 484.20 points; the second place finisher recorded 401.80 points.

Salmon earned 493.35 points in the 3-meter event besting the second place finisher by almost 90 points. Salmon qualified again for the NCAA "A" cuts in the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events. In addition, he was named Diver of the Meet.

Overall, Hamilton placed second at the 2004 Liberty League Championships, defeating six other teams, and only losing to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. "We fell short a little on the men's side," said head coach T.J. Davis. "I'm not going to dwell on that. RPI was ready to go. I think it's a good thing for our men to see that we have some vulnerable spots."

Connor is optimistic about the rest of the season: "Overall there were a lot of good things that came out of this weekend, and some bad things. But coming in second is not the end of the world. We will regroup, and come back to have a great second half of our season."

Men's Hockey will get a "fresh start" after break

*from **Hockey**, page 20*

ing with a rematch against Utica, coach Grady feels good about the team's situation. "We have a rematch against Utica the first week of January," he said. He continued, "it is almost like a whole new season. We get back in and we're fresh, it will give us a chance to get everyone healthy, everyone back, and everyone cookin' again. We're looking forward to getting another shot at Utica once we get back."

The team's game against Utica is scheduled for 7:00 on January 4, and there are various other games on the schedule over winter break. If you are in the area and would like to see some exciting college hockey, the team could use your support.

Women's hockey holds 3-4 record

by Matthew Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The women's hockey team has stepped up its caliber of play recently, winning a few very important games. The squad has been playing very well together lately, and several players have had extremely successful individual performances. The Continentals have gone 2-1 in their last three games, picking up two big wins on the road against Trinity College.

The Continentals faced off against Trinity on December 3 in a NESCAC game. Zoë Baldwin '06 took control of the game for Hamilton, knocking in four goals, including the game winner with only seconds remaining in the third. Hamilton was losing 4-2 at the end of the second period, but an offensive burst brought the Continentals out on top. Hamilton scored three unanswered goals in the third period, securing a come-from-behind victory against Trinity. The game ended with a 5-4 Hamilton victory. Taylor Brady '08, Tierney Boisvert '07, and Emma Dunn '07 all recorded assists in the game. Baldwin, with her multiple goal game, notched her way into the second place spot on the program's list of all-time goal leaders with 60.

In the Continentals' second match-up against the Bantams, Hamilton grabbed an early lead. Hamilton led 2-0 at the end of the first period. Brady fired in the game's first goal, and recorded her first goal of the season. Baldwin knocked in the second goal on an assist from Boisvert, making the score 2-0 at the end of the period. The Continentals knocked in another unanswered goal in the second period, increasing the lead to three goals. Baldwin scored Hamilton's fourth goal just two and a half minutes into the third period.

Trinity answered however, scoring its first and only goal of the game. Then, with under a minute left, Jess Goldberg '08 fired in Hamilton's fifth and final goal, and her first of the season. Hamilton's two NESCAC conference wins on the road are crucial not only for momentum, but for the conference standings. The two wins propelled them to third place in the league. "I was happy with the two games against Trinity," said Baldwin. "We came back on Saturday after a close game the night before and took the game from them. The Trinity games were two must wins and it was nice to finally be able to string both the wins together on the road."

The Continentals were not as successful however, in their most recent game against Utica College. Hamilton was blanked 0-2 in the December 7 match-up. The Continentals could not manage to record any goals, but it was a well fought game regardless. The score remained 0-0 through the first two periods. The first period was an aggressive battle for the puck; the two teams combined for seven penalties. In the third period however, Utica gained the early advantage, throwing in the first goal just two minutes into the period. Hamilton was unable to respond before the period ended. Utica knocked in one more goal, giving themselves the 2-0 lead. Caitlin Connelly '07 recorded 25 saves against Utica in her hard-fought stint in the goal. With no offensive spark however, the Continentals weren't able to keep up. "We played well against Utica but unfortunately things didn't go our way," said Baldwin. "We are looking forward to playing them again because we have a really good chance."

The squad will now enjoy a short break before continuing their game schedule again on January 7. The Continentals will be facing off against the Cardinals from Wesleyan College in a crucial NESCAC match-up. "I think the team is full of potential," commented Brady. "If we come out ready to play, no one can stop us."

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Volume XXXXV Number 12

Spectator Sports

December 10, 2004

Women's swimming wins Liberty League

by Katie Childs '08
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The Women's swimming and diving team captured their seventh straight Liberty League title on December 4, 2004. Last weekend's Liberty League Championships were held at Hamilton's Bristol Pool, giving the team a home advantage as they defeated eight other teams and crushed previous pool records.

The Women's 200-yard medley relay team of Suzie Wilson '06, Brittany Achin '05, Nicole Knapp '05, and Sam Pitter '07, broke the record for that event with a time of 1:54.04 minutes. That same team also captured a win and record-breaking time in the 400-yard medley; the previous record stood at 4:07.60 minutes, but this year's team was able to reduce it to 4:05.87 minutes. The second place team in the 400-yard medley was five seconds behind the Hamilton team.

Hamilton's 200-yard freestyle relay team had a close win over RPI, beating RPI by less than one-twentieth of a second. The relay team, made up by Katherine Hankowski '05, Cecilia Tripp '05, Naomi Krakower '07, and Wilson, recorded a time of 1:42.59 minutes.

"Our team enjoys that team concept in an individual sport and the relays are our way of doing that," said Head Coach T.J. Davis.

Wilson put in an impressive performance, winning both the 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard backstroke events. In the 100-yard backstroke, Wilson captured the event with a time of 1:00.84; the previous Liberty League record was 1:01.28 in 1999. Wilson had a time of 2:09.55 minutes in the 200-yard backstroke, beating the previous Liberty League record from 2002, which was held by a Rensselaer swimmer. Wilson, who will travel abroad next semester, was also named Swimmer of the Meet for the Liberty League Championships.

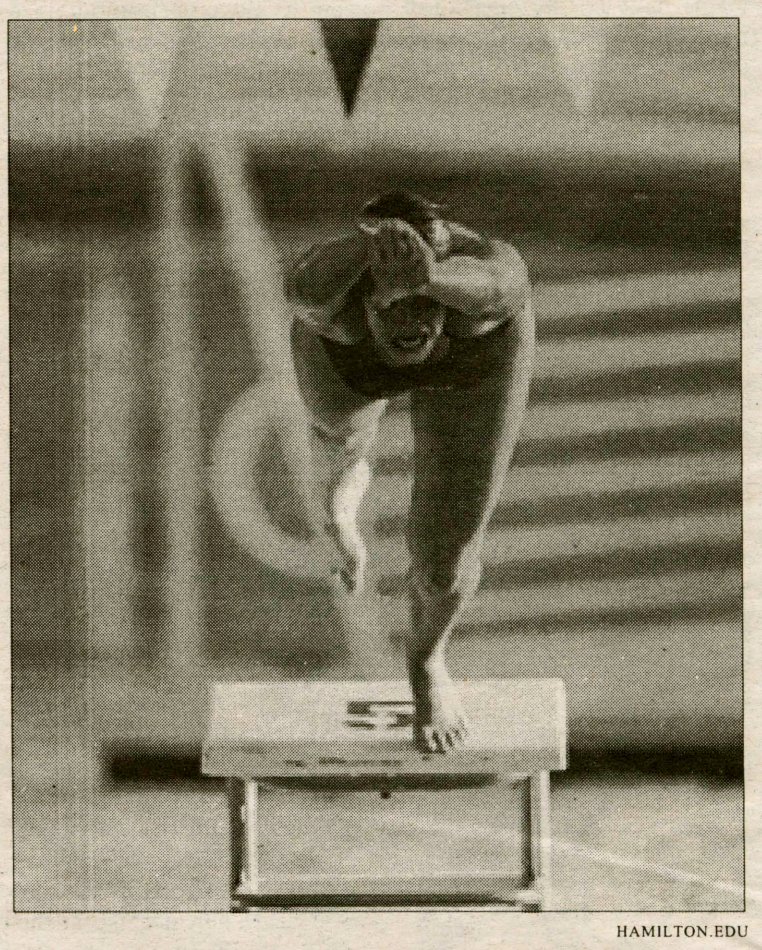
Both co-captains recorded first place individual finishes: Knapp captured first place in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:00.14 minutes, while Achin won the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:07.45 minutes and the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:26.17 minutes.

Emily Clinkhammer '06 placed fourth in the Women's 1-meter diving, with a cumulative score of 353.05 points. In the 3-meter event, Clinkhammer was fourth again, recording 395.70 points.

Overall, the team narrowly beat the University of Rochester to secure their seventh-straight Liberty League title. The Women's swimming and diving team earned 759.50 points compared to the University of Rochester's 746 points.

"It's always fun to have a big meet," said Coach Davis. "It sets the stage to focus in on the NESCAC Championships.

Both the Men's and Women's swimming and diving teams will travel to Hawaii on January 4 for training. Upon returning from Winter Break, the teams will have a home meet on January 15 against rival Middlebury College.



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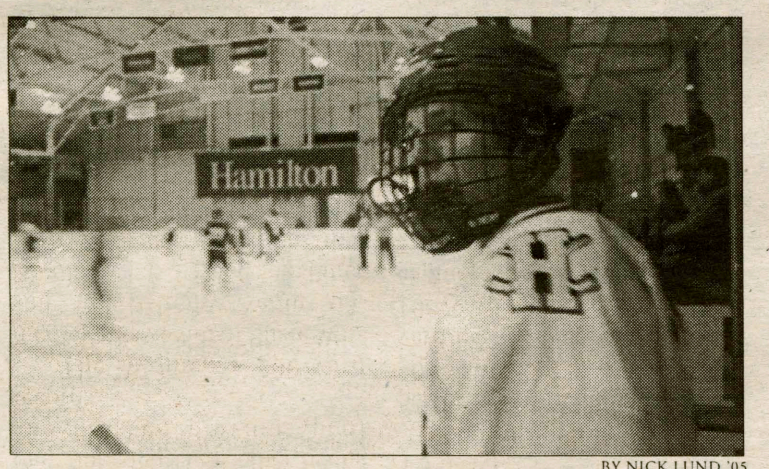
Co-captain Brittany Achin '05 continued her fine swimming during the Liberty League Championships.

Men's hockey loses annual Orange Bowl game



BY NICK LUND '05

Chris Cagliuso '05 looks on from the penalty box during last week's game versus Norwich.

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

Tough times are upon us atop Hamilton's hill. Though the Continentals continue to play hard, execution has been an issue in two of the last three games as the men's hockey team heads into the Winter Break period with a 3-3 record.

The packed house at Sage Rink most definitely played a factor at Hamilton's legendary Orange Bowl, but in this exciting game against the number two nationally ranked Norwich University Cadets, the Continentals couldn't quite manage to pull out a win. In this game the team faced perhaps its strongest competition of the season, and lost the contest 3-1. With the fans behind them, the intensity level was high throughout the game, and according to coach Grady, "the effort was there." Coach Grady explained, "we have to not only play hard but we have to play smart. We did some running around, and when you're running around against a good team they will find the open spots." Despite the loss, senior netminder Robbie "McNasty" McNeil played a truly outstanding game, recording 26 saves against Norwich's top-level program. Coach Grady praised him, stating, "Robbie played well. They had some really good scoring chances and he gave us the opportunity to win." He added, "we needed to put some in down the other end," going back to the lack of execution that has plagued the team thus far this season. The lone goalscorer for Hamilton was the pride of Mansfield, MA, Erik Kallio '06, who tied up the game in the first period. Coach Grady explained the offensive situation: "their goalie made a couple of big saves, a couple of lucky saves, and there is the difference. If a couple of those go all of a sudden it's a different game." Fortunately the offense was able to heat up in the Continentals next game.

Hamilton bounced back against St. Michael's the very next day after their loss to Norwich. The team came back with a vengeance and scored eight goals against a solid St. Michael's squad in their 8-3 victory. Coach Grady explained how key this win was for the team, stating, "to have such a physical game on Friday night and then to have the mental toughness, execute our team play better and put the puck in the net was really important for us." This offensive explosion was led by junior tri-captain Gus Katsuras '06, who tallied a hat trick in the contest. Though coach Grady praised Gabe Tash's play in net, he explained that "the difference was on offense," and that "Gus led the way with three goals at the other end." Other goalscorers were Matt Mesi '08, John Gordon '07, Chris Clarkson '07, Warren Berkstresser '06, and Nate Miller '08. In this sudden injection of offense, the team proved itself in another area that had been lagging thus far this season: special teams. According to Coach Grady, "the other nice thing is that our special teams came alive. The powerplay is now coming alive which is really good." In all, this was a positive showing for the team, and built optimism as they headed into their cross-town rivalry game against Utica College.

Unfortunately, this optimism was squashed as the team went down 3-0 early on in their Tuesday afternoon contest against the Pioneers. Though they fought back valiantly to tie the game up at 3, they could not keep the momentum as Utica scored with 3:53 left in the third period. "This is a great local rivalry, as coach Keenan is a former Hamilton hockey player," explained coach Grady. He added, "we came out, didn't play so well, and then came back and scored three goals. You gotta finish them off when you have that momentum, and we didn't do that. That wasn't good." The goalscorers for the Continentals were co-captain Mike Hayes and Kallio, who added two. Overall, coach Grady felt that "Utica was definitely a beatable team, and it was a game we should have won." With this loss, the team heads into the long winter break with a lot to prove.

Still, coach Grady has remained optimistic about the timing of this mid-season stoppage in play: "Injury-wise we are pretty beat up right now. This is a good time to be going into the break. We've got four or five guys out of the lineup who are key players. Coming back in January hopefully we'll be a stronger team." As for keeping the team morale up during this time, coach Grady explained, "It's our captain's job. Gus is consistently getting it done on the ice, Mike is our go-to guy, and Robbie is our senior leader. Those are the guys the players will be going to in order to show them the way."

With almost a month until their next hockey game, the team is able to get a fresh start and hopefully come back with a fire and passion to move forward with their season. With an exciting second half ahead of them, start

*see **Hockey**, page 19*